

# *Congratulations!*

**2022 REGION VII  
AWARD & SCHOLARSHIP  
RECIPIENTS**

## REGIONAL AWARD RECIPIENTS

### **ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR**

*Liz Fairchild*

Sieda Community Action Agency, Ottumwa, Iowa

### **TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

*Cindy Matulich-Gerdes*

Sarpy County/ESU # 3 Head Start, Papillion, Nebraska

### **SUPPORT STAFF OF THE YEAR**

*Jessica Molnar*

USD 489 Early Childhood Connections, Hays, Kansas

### **FAMILY ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR**

*Karen Nolting*

Center for Human Services Early Head Start, Sedalia, Missouri

### **FAMILY LEADER OF THE YEAR**

*Kylee Powell*

NEK-CAP Inc., Lansing, Kansas

### **EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD**

*Advisors Excel*

Sheldon Head Start, Topeka, Kansas

### **TOM MAYER AWARD OF EXCELLENCE**

*Jeff Goldammer*

Economic Security Corporation of Southwest Area, Joplin, Missouri

### **ANN LINEHAN SAFETY AWARD**

South Central Iowa Community Action Program

# SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

## HEAD START ALUMNI HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP

*Estefani Ramirez*

USD 489 Early Childhood Connections, Hays, Kansas

## HEAD START PARENT POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

*Michelle Callahan*

Head Start Child & Family Development Program, Hastings, Nebraska

## HEAD START STAFF- HIGHER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

*Aime Gonzalez*

Head Start Child & Family Development Program, Hastings, Nebraska

# STATE CHILDREN'S CHAMPIONS

## IOWA STATE CHILDREN'S CHAMPION

*Gina and Tyler Greene*

Iowa Head Start State Association

## KANSAS STATE CHILDREN'S CHAMPION

*Amanda Petersen*

Director, Early Childhood  
Kansas State Department of Education

## MISSOURI STATE CHILDREN'S CHAMPION

*Linda Bleything*

Douglass Community Service, Hannibal, Missouri

## NEBRASKA STATE CHILDREN'S CHAMPION

*Dr. Paula Thompson*

University of Nebraska Kearney



Region VII Head Start Association

IOWA | KANSAS | MISSOURI | NEBRASKA

Recipients were recognized at the 2022  
R7HSA Leadership Conference in October.