

Reg Weaver Human and Civil Rights Award

As a classroom teacher for more than 30 years, Reg Weaver saw up close the toll poverty takes on students. He saw students without coats in the dead of winter. He saw students who showed up for class hungry. He saw students without basic school supplies, not even a pencil, and the impact that it had on their education. What's more, Reg Weaver was famous for dipping into his own pocket to buy a student a winter coat, a meal, or supplies. He also visited poor students' homes to ensure that their families understood someone cared. And when Reg Weaver was President of the Illinois Education Association- NEA, and then President of NEA, he kept the spotlight fixed on the plight of poor students.

NEA presents the Reg Weaver Human and Civil Rights Award to a nominee whose activities around closing the poverty gaps for children in America and around the world have made a significant impact in helping poor students and eliminating poverty.

To be eligible for this award, the nominee must meet one or more of the following criteria:

1. Educate the public about the issues related to the impact of poverty on children.
2. Work actively to improve the economic opportunities for all people.
3. Inspire public engagement in the elimination of poverty.
4. Promote public policy that positively affects the economic health and welfare of families.
5. Work in partnership with other agencies/groups to give a voice to those marginalized by poverty.
6. Help schools develop programs that enhance the education, social, and emotional health of children in economically depressed areas and/or areas of high concentration of poverty.

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Criteria Eligibility Form**

Explain how your nominee meets one or more of the following criteria:

1. *Educate the public about the issues related to the impact of poverty on children.*

2. *Work actively to improve the economic opportunities for all people.*

3. *Inspire public engagement in the elimination of poverty.*

4. *Promote public policy that positively affects the economic health and welfare of families.*

5. *Work in partnership with other agencies/groups to give a voice to those marginalized for poverty.*

6. *Help schools develop programs that enhance the education, social, and emotional health of children in economically depressed areas and/or areas of high concentration of poverty.*