

## 2024 NOMINATION

Please print clearly or type in the spaces below.



### Category (choose only one)

- Arts in the Community
- Community Activist
- Education In the Community
- Healthcare
- Youth Activist
- Lifetime Achievement

### **INDIVIDUAL NOMINEE**

**(must live inside Houston city limits and be eligible to vote in Houston municipal elections)**

Name: Ricardo Barnes

Cell Phone: (832) 499-7788

Other Phone: (713) 996-8781

Home Address: 12435 Calico Falls Lane

City: Houston

State: TX

Zip: 77041

E-mail: rbarnes@sbfdc.org

### **NOMINATOR**

Name: Senator Molly Cook

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Phone: (713) 864-8701

Home Address: 4808 Gibson, Ste. 210

City: Houston

State: TX

Zip: 77007

E-mail: molly.cook@senate.texas.gov

### Submit via Mail or email the completed form

- Nomination form (mandatory)
- Narrative statement or Letter of Recommendation (mandatory)
- Resume/Bio (mandatory)
- Other Supporting materials

**All mandatory materials must be submitted, to be considered.**

#### E-mail to:

[Jackie.Schuessler-Kimsey@houstontx.gov](mailto:Jackie.Schuessler-Kimsey@houstontx.gov)

#### Mail to:

City of Houston  
Attn: Jackie Schuessler-Kimsey (MHHA)  
901 Bagby, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor  
Houston, Texas 77002

**Deadline:** Postmarked by **September 6, 2024**



## THE SENATE OF THE STATE TEXAS

Molly Cook

State Senator, District 15

DISTRICT OFFICE  
4808 Gibson St., Ste. 210  
Houston, TX 77007  
(713) 864-8701

CAPITOL OFFICE  
P.O. Box 12068  
Austin, TX 78711  
(512) 463-0115

August 27, 2024

Jackie Schuessler-Kimsey  
Boards and Commissions  
City of Houston  
901 Bagby  
Houston, TX 77002

Dear Ms. Schuessler-Kimsey:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit a nomination for the 2024 Mayor's Hispanic Heritage Award. I respectfully request Ricardo Barnes be considered for the Community Activist award. In 2001, Mr. Barnes founded the Spring Branch Family Development Center to address the growing need for community and social services in the Spring Branch Community.

The Spring Branch Family Development Center is a multi-agency collaboration of community based organizations who are committed to providing low-income families with bilingual resources in the areas of education, recreation, and health and social services, with plans to expand to include a library to enhance their education and literacy services in the area. The agency services more than 14,000 individuals annually through the efforts of 10 partner agencies.

Since its founding, Mr. Barnes' vision for the center has ensured it serves as a community hub where local families can access information, resources, and support. The agency's strong presence in the community allows representatives to stay connected with families and continually assess their needs.

Most recently, in response to the Derecho storm and Hurricane Beryl's direct impact to the community, the Spring Branch Family Development Center, in collaboration with community partners, provided 40,000 hot meals, ice and water, and served as a community hub for applying for emergency state and federal resources.

Mr. Barnes' passion for service and deep empathy for the Spring Branch Community make him an outstanding candidate for the Community Activist award. The work he has accomplished and will continue to do will positively impact many generations of families in the Houston area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Molly Cook".

Molly Cook  
Texas State Senator, District 15



# Spring Branch Family Development Center

8575 Pitner Rd Houston, Texas 77080 – [www.sbfdc.org](http://www.sbfdc.org) – 713-996-8781

Biographical Information  
Ricardo Barnes, M.A., L.P.C.  
Executive Director

Mr. Ricardo Barnes' career has centered on seeking the well-being of children and families by empowering them to reach their potential. Opening the doors of the Spring Branch Family Development Center as the Executive Director in 2001, for the past 23 years, Mr. Barnes' leadership has built a successful multi-agency collaborative model focused on providing low-income families with bilingual resources in the areas of education, recreation, health and social services at one location. More than 14,000 individuals receive services at SBFDC every year through the work of more than 10 agencies.

Over the past two decades, the trust and rapport built by Mr. Barnes within the surrounding community has resulted in the Center becoming a community hub where families seek out information, resources and support. By remaining in close contact with families and regularly assessing needs, Mr. Barnes is an important relationship broker between the community and agencies looking to impact in relevant ways. The most recent summer disasters, the Derecho storm and Hurricane Beryl, hit SBFDC's direct community of 7,000 people on Pitner Road very hard, leaving thousands of children without access to power, food, and air conditioning for 6 days at a time. Mr. Barnes stepped up to provide leadership and coordinate responses among Federal, State, County, City, nonprofit, churches, and community volunteers. By leveraging different resources to meet community needs, over 40,000 hot meals were served, along with ice and water distributions, and opportunities to apply for aid with FEMA and other services to help with recovery.

A native of Panama, Mr. Barnes graduated with honors in psychology from Saint Thomas University in New Brunswick, Canada. He completed his Master of Arts in Clinical and Community Psychology from Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, Texas. Since 1980, Mr. Barnes has worked with children and families in many settings including, incarcerated youth, outpatient settings, inpatient settings, partial hospital settings and schools. Prior to opening SBFDC, Mr. Barnes was the Director of Outpatient Services at DePelchin Children's Center. Mr. Barnes has resided in Houston, Texas, since 1985. He and his wife of 33 years, Jane, enjoy riding their motorcycles, traveling to other countries and taking care of their dogs, Honey Bunny and Molly May. In his spare time, Mr. Barnes enjoys riding mountain bikes and racing cars.

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EDUCATION. RECREATION. HEALTH. SOCIAL SERVICES.  
SERVING SINCE 2001.

**Ricardo A. Barnes, M.A., L.P.C.**

**12435 Calico Falls Lane  
Houston, Texas 77041  
E-mail: rbarnes@sbfdc.org**

**Cellular: 832.499.7788  
Office: 713.996.8781**

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

SPRING BRANCH FAMILY DEVELOPMENT CENTER, Executive Director, 2001 to present

- ❖ Coordinate the delivery of services at the Center from all the providers.
- ❖ Assess the needs of the community in order to direct the development of new service opportunities.
- ❖ Represent the Center in all appropriate committees at the Spring Branch Independent School District (two terms in the Campus Improvement Team at Hollibrook Elementary, two terms in the Campus Improvement Team at Panda Path, multiple terms at the District Improvement Team, multiple terms in the Hispanic Advisory Committee, School Bond Committee, Board Buddies, an others)
- ❖ Represent and market the Center in the Spring Branch community, Harris County and the City of Houston.
- ❖ Direct the efforts of the Center to raise operating funds and prepare proposal to solicit funds.
- ❖ Supervise all staff that is employed by Spring Branch Human Resources Inc

DEPELCHIN CHILDREN'S CENTER, Director of Outpatient Services, 1997 – 2001, Houston, Texas

- ❖ Coordinate the design, development and implementation of service delivery in three counties.
- ❖ Prepared the organization's budget and monitored its implementation.
- ❖ Oversaw clinical and administrative support staff to ensure consistency in the delivery of the services.
- ❖ Developed and negotiated business agreements with other agencies/providers to expand the services offered.
- ❖ Actively involved in funding activities to finance the expansion of the organization's business.
- ❖ Designed the needed control parameters to continuously measure the quality of the services rendered.
- ❖ Created a new data gathering process to streamline the acquisition and reporting of data.
- ❖ Served as the organization's spokesperson in professional and community events.
- ❖ Explore and implement clinical opportunities that can be provided via the Internet/Intranet.
- ❖ Webmaster and knowledge manager for the organization's Intranet site.
- ❖ Coordinate the acquisition of hardware and software products.
- ❖ Build and maintain relationships with decision-makers throughout the industry/community.

HARRIS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT, HIV Services, Program Coordinator, 1995 – 1997, Houston, Texas

- ❖ Coordinated the program components of the Houston Regional HIV Care Management System (HIV/CMS).
- ❖ Served as the liaison between the care managers and the Ryan White Planning Council Case Management Committee regarding system utilization, revision and expansion.
- ❖ Designed the software used in the collection of client demographics and service data at more than twenty remote sites.
- ❖ Negotiated and purchased the needed IT resources.
- ❖ Designed curriculum and evaluation for extensive corporate training.

SHARPSTOWN GENERAL HOSPITAL, Program Director, 1994-1995, Houston, Texas

- ❖ Developed and implemented an inpatient adolescent program and a partial hospital program for adults.

- ❖ Coordinated and supervised a large group of professionals in multiple locations.
- ❖ Directed the community relations staff and interfaced with the community and private resources.
- ❖ Designed and conducted studies in order to improve staff effectiveness in the service delivery.
- ❖ Marketed the services offered by the organization to local corporations and non-profit organizations.

Memorial Spring Shadows Glen, Program Coordinator, 1989 – 1994, Houston, Texas

- ❖ Coordinated the development of the master treatment plan, providing individual, family and group therapy, and interfacing with other disciplines to ensure proper and adequate discharge planning.
- ❖ Organized and implemented a Parent Education Class that ran successfully for 5 1/2 years.
- ❖ Coordinated the development and implementation of the Mobile Mental Health Crisis Response Team with Spring Branch Independent School District across all school campus within the school district.
- ❖ Instrumental in the development, promotion and delivery of services to Hispanic patients through the Programa Español.
- ❖ Managed the outpatient clinic, which required constant interaction with community base agencies, radio and television media, businesses and schools.

D.I.R., Consultant, 1989 – 1990, Houston, Texas

- ❖ Provided consulting services in program evaluation across the United States for the 1,000 Points of Light.

NORHTSIDE CHILD & ADOLESCENT SERVICES (MHMRA), Staff Psychologist, 1985 – 1989, Houston, Texas

- ❖ Provided psychological services to adolescents and children in a community based outpatient clinic.
- ❖ Coordinated school-based programs to develop preventive programs and parent education programs.

JUVENILE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY, Director, Psychology Department, 1983 – 1985, Panama City, Panama

- ❖ Supervised and directed a clinical staff of seven and a support staff of five.
- ❖ Advised the Senior Judge and General Secretary on social, environmental and emotional issues that related to youth and delinquent behavior.
- ❖ Coordinated studies done by graduating students of the University of Panamá in the field of adolescent criminal behavior.
- ❖ Conducted seminars for the staff of the Juvenile Detention Center.
- ❖ Coordinated the outreach prevention programs in the local elementary and high schools, and interfaced with a number of volunteer agencies throughout the city.
- ❖ Provided logistics and support to the Office of the First Lady of Panama in the areas of community support, youth delinquent behavior and interventions, family development and support, the impact of drugs and possible interventions to decrease the prevalence of use.

## **EDUCATION**

- ❖ Master of Arts in Clinical and Community Psychology, Stephen F. Austin State University, December 1982.
- ❖ Bachelor of Arts with Honors in Psychology, Saint Thomas University, Canada, May 1980.

## **SKILLS AND ABILITIES**

- ❖ Licensed Professional Counselor Supervisor, Texas Licensing Board, 1994.
- ❖ Certified Diversity Trainer, National Multi-Cultural Institute, 1995.
- ❖ Proficient in the use of a variety of computer hardware and software packages, operating systems, web development tools, network architecture, LAN and the Internet/Intranet among others.
- ❖ Certified Public Translator, Spanish-English-Spanish, 1985, Panama City, Republic of Panama.

- ❖ Public Speaker, “Outstanding Speakers Bureau Volunteer” award from the Mental Health Association, 1990.
- ❖ Speaker Bureau since 1988.

#### **MEMBERSHIPS**

- ❖ Mental Health Association of Houston and Harris County, 1988 to Present.  
Chair of the Multicultural Affairs Committee from 1990 to 1992; Chair of the Plain Talk Sub-Committee from 1988 to 1990; Speakers’ Bureau Volunteer since 1988; and Member of the Hispanic Network.
- ❖ Association of Panamanian Psychologist, March 1983 to Present.
- ❖ Association of Central American Psychologist, March 1983 to Present.
- ❖ Texas Counseling Association, May 1995 to Present.

**PUBLICATIONS, AWARDS AND REFERENCES:** Available upon request.