



For Immediate Release

June 26, 2025

Clover Announces 2025 Annual Award Honorees Recognizing Leadership, Advocacy, and Community Impact

Clover, a leading nonprofit serving children, families, veterans, and seniors across the Greater New Orleans area, proudly announced the recipients of its **2025 Annual Awards** at the organization's **129th Annual Meeting**. The event honored individuals and organizations whose exceptional leadership, service, and partnership have helped advance Clover's mission to educate children, strengthen families, and build community. This year's meeting was dedicated in loving memory of former Clover Board President and longtime friend and supporter **Sheldon "Skip" Brechtel**, whose more than 20 years of service helped shape the agency's growth and lasting impact.

Among this year's honorees are several distinguished community and civic leaders, including **Louisiana State Senator Royce Duplessis**, the **New Orleans Career Center**, and **Dr. Kara Ahmed** & the national **Educare Learning Network**—each recognized for their deep commitment to the well-being of children and families in New Orleans and beyond.

THE REV. BEVERLEY WARNER AWARD

The agency's highest honor, recognizing visionary leadership and transformational impact

Azeb Negasi, Clover Connections Program Manager
Arnel Cosey, Ph.D., Clover Strategy & Impact Officer

MELANIE BRONFIN ADVOCACY FOR CHILDREN AWARD

For outstanding public policy and advocacy on behalf of children and families

Louisiana Senator Royce Duplessis

LIBBY MILTON CHAMPION FOR CHILDREN AWARD

For advancing the well-being and education of children

Dr. Kara Ahmed & The Educare Learning Network

ELEANOR MCMAIN CITIZENSHIP AWARD

For service and civic responsibility in support of our community

New Orleans Career Center
Althea Labbe, Community Volunteer

ELEANOR MCMAIN AND BONITA GODCHAUX BOOK AWARD

For outstanding dedication to lifelong learning

Brianeka "Bri" Dixon, Educare New Orleans Assistant Teacher
Johnathon Warren, DBA, MBA-IT, Clover Director of Information and Technical Services

(more)

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STERN AWARD

For outstanding board service and leadership

Herman Franklin

Cindy McCurdy

Charlotte Sapir

“This year’s honorees embody the values that guide everything we do at Clover,” said Chief Executive Officer Dr. Keith Liederman. “They lead with compassion, courage, and an unwavering commitment to equity. We’re proud to recognize their extraordinary contributions to the health and prosperity of our city, state and region.”

About Clover

Founded in 1896 with a mission to educate children, strengthen families and build community, Clover (formerly Kingsley House) envisions a city and region where all young children are ready to succeed, and all citizens are healthy and economically stable. Recognizing that under-served families are at risk of being caught in an intractable cycle of poverty, the organization is committed to ensuring that individuals and families have the supports necessary to be successful at all stages of life. For more about Clover’s mission and how to get involved, visit clovernola.org.

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