

2026 Janna Lesser Community Engagement Hero Awards

The IIMS is seeking nominations to recognize outstanding individuals who have worked as part of a community-academic partnership (between a community group and a UT San Antonio research team) for the improved health and well-being of South Texas communities.

Dr. Janna Lesser was a dedicated champion of community engagement who believed in the power of meaningful community-academic partnerships. These awards honor her legacy by recognizing individuals and projects advancing collaboration, shared leadership, and healthier Texas communities.

Award categories include:

- Outstanding Student Award
- Outstanding Community Partner Award
- Outstanding Research Partner Award
- Outstanding Community Health Improvement Project

Selected awardees receive a \$500 domestic travel award to be used for a future meeting.

Awards will be presented during the 2026 Community Engagement Symposium

[Submit your nomination\(s\) by Oct. 12, 2026 HERE.](#)

[For more information go HERE.](#)



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