

## **Nomination Letter for the Don Cavelli Award In Recognition of Outstanding Service as a National Vice President**

Dear Bethanie,

It is my great honor to nominate Chris Solin, National Vice President assigned to Montana, for the prestigious Don Cavelli Award, recognizing the most outstanding National Vice President. Throughout this year, Chris has exemplified the very best of servant leadership, mentorship, humility, and unwavering commitment to the success of our members, chapters, and state organization.

From the outset of his assignment to Montana, Chris became not only a National Vice President in title, but a true partner, supporter, and friend. His dedication to strengthening JCI in Montana has been evident in his active engagement, consistent communication, and practical guidance that has empowered both myself and our local leaders to grow and succeed.

One of the greatest examples of his support has been his involvement with our efforts to extend and charter a new chapter in Polson, Montana. Chris not only encouraged these efforts—he invested his time and energy into helping make them possible. He provided draft letters for outreach to local businesses, shared insight on best practices for engaging prospective members, and offered ideas, encouragement, and accountability along the way. His support allowed me to move forward with clarity and confidence during what could have otherwise been an overwhelming process.

Beyond organizational development, Chris has also been a steady and compassionate support system for me personally as State President. In moments when leadership felt heavy, he created a safe space to talk openly, process challenges, and explore solutions without judgment. He listened first, responded with empathy, and always helped me reconnect with purpose and perspective. His mentorship strengthened not only my leadership skills, but my resilience and sense of connection to the JCI mission.

Chris consistently encouraged growth opportunities for both myself and my members, inviting us to participate in national committees, programs, and competitions that expanded our skills and networks. He also went out of his way to recognize and showcase the accomplishments of Montana's members, often without being asked, helping them feel seen, valued, and inspired to continue creating impact.

What stands out most about Chris, however, is his sincere humility. Chris does not seek titles, attention, or recognition. In fact, he is the first to shy away from the spotlight and the last person to welcome a compliment. He simply does what he believes is right, supporting those around him, lifting others up, and quietly ensuring that the people and chapters he serves have what they need to succeed. His impact is not measured by how loudly it is seen, but by how deeply it is felt.

The Don Cavelli Award honors a National Vice President who goes above and beyond in service to their assigned states, and Chris embodies that spirit in every way. His leadership has strengthened our organization. His mentorship has strengthened me. And his friendship has been a gift I will carry forward long beyond this year of service.

It is with deep gratitude and absolute confidence that I submit this nomination for National Vice President Chris Solin. His integrity, dedication, and heartfelt commitment to the success of others, paired with his quiet humility (and sometimes not so quiet), make him profoundly deserving of this recognition.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Kevin Clark-Holmes  
State President, JCI Montana  
2025