

9-27-2013

Alumnus Honored by White House as 'Champion of Change'

Public Affairs, Roger Williams University

Follow this and additional works at: https://docs.rwu.edu/weekatroger_featured_news



Part of the [Higher Education Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Public Affairs, Roger Williams University, "Alumnus Honored by White House as 'Champion of Change'" (2013). *Featured News Story*. 156.

https://docs.rwu.edu/weekatroger_featured_news/156

This News Article is brought to you for free and open access by the The Week at Roger at DOCS@RWU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Featured News Story by an authorized administrator of DOCS@RWU. For more information, please contact mwu@rwu.edu.

Alumnus Honored by White House as 'Champion of Change'

Joseph McKenna '11 awarded for his success empowering Texas youths with emergency preparedness skills



September 27, 2013 | Public Affairs Staff

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The White House honored Joseph McKenna -- a 2011 RWU graduate who double-majored in criminal justice and psychology -- this week as a local hero and "Champion of Change" for his work empowering youth with emergency preparedness skills in Texas.

McKenna was recognized as a Champion for Change for Community Preparedness and Resilience, a program which celebrates Americans who are preparing communities for disasters and helping them respond and recover. The Champions of Change program was created as an opportunity for the White House to feature individuals, businesses, and organizations doing extraordinary things to empower and inspire members of their communities.

McKenna's award comes after success as a research specialist and youth preparedness camp coordinator for the Texas School Safety Center at Texas State University, where he is he currently pursuing a Ph.D. With funding from the Department of Homeland Security, the RWU alumnus singlehandedly created a school mentoring program focused on developing emergency preparedness capacities for local youth.

McKenna has also encouraged the integration of CERT programs into local K-12 schools through his facilitation, instruction and support, with the ultimate goal of creating sustainable preparedness programs for educational institutions. Additionally, he supports various youth groups as they deliver the message of disaster preparedness and the role youth can have in disaster situations.

To learn more about the Champions of Change initiative please visit <http://www.whitehouse.gov/champions>.

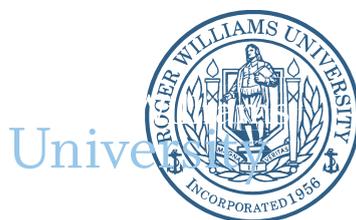
Share This:

 [REQUEST INFO](#)

 [VISIT CAMPUS](#)

 [APPLY](#)

 [MAKE A GIFT](#)



One Old Ferry Road, Bristol, RI 02809

1-800-458-7144

[Map & Directions](#)

rwu.edu

[Contact Us](#)

[Undergraduate Site](#)

[Directory](#)

[Graduate Site](#)

[News](#)

[School of Law](#)

[Events](#)

[School of Continuing Studies](#)

[Athletics](#)



© 2018 Roger Williams University. All rights reserved.

[GMAIL AT RWU](#) [BRIDGES](#) [MY RWU](#) [IT HELP](#) [SITE POLICIES](#) [WORK AT RWU](#)