



Awards Program

An awards event celebrating excellence in health networks

The National Cooperative of Health Networks Association is pleased to accept nominations for the 11th Annual NCHN Awards Program. The Awards Program is designed to honor outstanding individuals and organizations in the field of health networks. The 11th Annual Awards Celebration will be held during the virtual 2021 NCHN Annual Educational Conference. Act now to nominate your favorite health network leader and/or organization so they will be known and honored nationally for dedicating their professional life, expertise, time and talent to providing and improving the health services of their network members. **Entry deadline is Friday, March 5, 2021.**

You can nominate a colleague and/or yourself. If you have any questions about the NCHN Awards Program, please contact Linda Weiss at lweiss@nchn.org or 217-549-4121.

Awards presentation and recognition

NCHN will recognize the award winners on Tuesday, April 20th at the Awards Ceremony at the virtual 2021 NCHN Annual Educational Conference. Awardees will be recognized before conference participants, which will include their peers, government officials and guests. Awardees will receive the opportunity to make a brief, (3-5 minute) acceptance speech. Award winners are expected, and their Award nominators are strongly encouraged, to attend the Awards Ceremony. Nominators of Award recipients will be asked to provide a slide show or video, to be shown during the Awards Ceremony. Submission of said slide show or video will not impact the nomination or selection process. Awardees will receive coverage in the NCHN e-News and a plaque or award appropriate for display. Additionally, a national press release will be issued by the NCHN announcing the winners. Awardees and their organizations are requested to respect the right of NCHN to be the first to announce program winners.

Award categories

Outstanding Network Leader

The NCHN's Outstanding Network Leader Award recognizes a network leader for leadership in managing a successful health network organization. The Network Leader Award is meant to be inclusive of all types of health networks, alliances, collaboratives, and consortiums. The network leader must have been in the position for a minimum of five years. The nominee's work should expand beyond the local community and have a demonstrated effect on health networks at state and national levels.

Factors taken into consideration include:

- Active involvement of the network members
- Lasting contributions to the overall health care system of the area
- Long-term sustainability of the network
- Proven outstanding leadership

Outstanding Health Network

The Outstanding Health Network Award recognizes a network that has improved access to healthcare services within its service area and facilitates the coordination of resources for network members through innovative, comprehensive approaches.

Factors considered include:

- Coordination of services with other health care agencies to avoid duplication of services
- Innovation in development and implementation of services
- Lasting impact on populations and areas served by the network
- Networking and collaboration with other health care entities to achieve common goals
- Organizational leadership, outreach, education, quality and efficiency of care
- Strong network support from members served
- Sustained network

Outstanding Emerging Network Leader

The Outstanding Emerging Network Leader Award recognizes extraordinary leadership activities demonstrated by a new network leader in the field of health networks (at least one year and not more than five years). Candidates nominated for this award will have displayed a vested interest in improving health networks and will have demonstrated an ability to work towards this improvement.

Efforts may include:

- Commitment of time/effort to the sustainability and long-term viability of the network
- Developing and implementing new program services for the network members
- Educational or promotional activities of the network
- Significant achievements in network development
- Unique approaches to identifying or meeting needs of network members

Friend of NCHN

The Friend of NCHN Award is given to recognize a program, institution, agency, or individual that has advocated for or provided extraordinary support to the Association.

Lifetime Achievement Award

NCHN Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes contributions to the field of health networks over a sustained period. Recipients of this award are truly exceptional persons with a record of achievement, which exceeds even that of those that have been awarded the Outstanding Network Leader. They exemplify excellence and are representative of the best in the health network field.

Factors considered include:

- Evidence of significant fundamental contributions to health network development and sustainability over an extended period of time.
- Service has a lasting impact and demonstrates a lifetime commitment to health networks at the local, regional, state, and/or national level.
- Must have been an active member of NCHN and could be a previous recipient of the Outstanding Network Leader award.
- The Awards Committee and NCHN Board of Directors will make the final selection of the recipient.
- This award may not be given each year.

Application Process

An **application form** must be completed and returned to NCHN by **Friday, March 5, 2021**. The applications will be reviewed by the Selection Committee. Members of the Selection Committee will not be considered for an award. For more information, contact Linda Weiss at lweiss@nchn.org or 217-549-4121.