

North Dakota Public Health Association (NDPHA)

Award Criteria and Nomination Tips and Tricks

Each year the NDPHA recognizes individuals and its members with four awards: Public Health Worker of the Year, Public Health Team of the Year, Outstanding Service Award and Longevity Awards. Below describes who is eligible for nomination as well as considerations that will be considered when reviewing nominations and selecting award recipients.



Public Health Worker of the Year

This award honors a current member of NDPHA for outstanding Public Health contributions or achievements this past year in North Dakota. Nominees for Public Health Worker of the Year must be an active member of NDPHA in the award year. Please consider the following thoughts when submitting your nomination for Public Health Worker of the Year:

- Identified creative solutions and new opportunities in support of public health (large or small in scope) that have made a significant and positive difference in its practice in North Dakota.
- Identified novel approaches for completing work more effectively or efficiently as well as improving the quality of public health services administered and demonstrating courage to grow through wise risk taking.
- Looked for creative approaches to provide or improve public health services that may increase efficiency and decrease cost.
- Mentor to staff, accessible, available, and responsive to the needs of others, encouraging critical thinking and problem-solving for individuals and with the context of teams.
- Role model for compassion, exemplary practice and serve as a model for behavior perceived as extraordinary.
- Inspires others and motivates staff with a shared vision and enthusiasm to achieve better outcomes for themselves and for their community and always considers other perspectives.

Public Health Team of the Year

This award recognizes a team that has worked collaboratively on a unique, creative, or simply outstanding public health effort, program, or goal in the past year. Nominations for a team must include a minimum of two individuals and at least one team member must be a member of NDPHA in the award year. Please consider the following thoughts when submitting your nomination for Public Health Team of the Year:

- Identified creative solutions and new opportunities in support of public health (large or small in scope) that have made a significant and positive difference in its practice in North Dakota.
- Identified novel approaches for completing work more effectively or efficiently as well as improving the quality of public health services administered.
- Identified novel approaches for completing work more effectively or efficiently as well as improving the quality of public health services administered.
- Team integrates diversity and inclusion practices into their public health services.
- Team promotes and enhances the image of public health within the organization, the community, and the profession.

NDPHA AWARD CRITERIA AND NOMINATION TIPS & TRICKS



Outstanding Service Award

This award honors an individual who has exhibited continued excellence in the field of public health. Nominees should have a minimum of 10 years of experience in public health. The nominee may be a member of NDPHA or can be chosen from any lay or professional group. The major portion of achievement should have been accomplished in North Dakota, or by a North Dakota native in another state or at the federal level. This individual should have contributed to the promotion and advancement of public health and have portrayed the characteristics outlined below:

- Outstanding career in public health that has led to significant achievements and/or positive differences in health of citizens in their community, North Dakota, the United States or globally.
- Resourcefulness beyond that expected such as solving problems or demonstrating initiative in responding to difficult situations or unforeseen circumstances.
- Demonstrates a spirit of teamwork and cooperation and treats others with respect. Interacts with others in a positive, enthusiastic, and cheerful manner.
- Exhibits superior leadership skills, including mentoring of public health professionals to invest in the workforce and infrastructure of public health.
- Enhances the field of public health through innovation and continued efforts in improving the health and lives of individuals.
- Fosters an atmosphere of cooperation and creativity that contributes to the efficiency and effectiveness of their peers and is well respected by public health professionals.

Longevity Awards

- This award recognizes NDPHA members who have been organization members for 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 and every five-year increments thereafter. **Longevity Awards are distributed by the NDPHA Awards Committee; thus, individuals are not required to be nominated for the longevity awards.** Awardees must have been members the appropriate number of years.

Notes:

- *Individuals submitting nominations do not need to be members of NDPHA.*
- *The NDPHA Awards Committee considers the award year to be the year that proceeds the year in which the award will be distributed. For example, the 2022 Public Health Worker of the Year will be awarded in June 2022 and the nominees must be a NDPHA member in 2021. In addition, the 2022 nominations should focus on work and activities that was completed in 2021.*
- *Self-nominations are not allowed. Exception: nominations for Public Health Team of the Year can be submitted by a member of the team.*
- *Award recipients are not eligible for three years after receiving an award in that award category. Individuals are only eligible to receive the Outstanding Service Award once.*
- *Members of the Awards/Nominating Committee will review all nominations and select the award recipients. All individuals submitting nominations will receive notification on whether their nominee was selected. Awardees will be selected utilizing only the information that is submitted in the nomination form. Nomination forms will be reviewing using the above considerations. The Awards/Nominating Committee has the discretion of utilizing the NDPHA Governing Council to review nominations and awarding multiple awards in individual categories as necessary.*



Nomination Tips and Tricks

The North Dakota Public Health Association (NDPHA) is honored that you are considering nominating one of your colleagues for an award at this year's conference. The key to a great nomination, is highlighting specific information that illustrates how the individual or team's achievements have made a positive impact on public health in North Dakota (and maybe even nationally). Make sure the examples you use in your nomination match the specific award criteria noted above. Here are some tips for you to consider as you write your nomination:

Who should you nominate?

- Ensure the person or team you want to nominate, fits the criteria before you begin.
- Select a person who you feel has made or is making a positive effect on public health.

WHAT did the nominee do?

- List out any projects or activities that go above and beyond the persons job description.
- Name any challenges or issues encountered and how they were overcome.
- Use specific examples. Don't assume the awards committee will understand the specific nature of a project or achievement. Provide an explanation. Be specific. Avoid generalities.
- What leadership qualities does the nominee or team possess that inspires others?
- Gather input from other colleagues.

*Examples of achievements that resulted in significant positive outcomes for the agency:

Weak: Kelly's always celebrates diversity.

Stronger: Kelly organized our agency's first multicultural training and job fair for 300 people. This facilitated our organization to be able to recruit and retain a more culturally diverse team.

HOW did the nominee do it?

- Describe initiative & leadership, creativity & innovation, behaviors & attitudes, partnership with others.
- List out the "above & beyond" (What was the activity extra, taken on voluntarily? What is different from before the activity?)

WHAT were the results/impact of this action?

- What did the nominee(s) accomplish?
- What benefits were achieved as a result of these efforts?

*Examples to describe the scope and impact of the nominee's contributions

Weak: Kelly coordinated oversight for multiple programs.

Stronger: Kelly led 50 personnel who provided oversight at 20 immunization clinics from six public health sites, resulting in 1,000 community members being vaccinated.