



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

HISTORY

Each year since 2010, an interagency state-level committee made up of representatives from state child-serving agencies, mental health advocacy organizations and family/youth run organizations has planned an annual celebration. The committee has organized a recognition event in conjunction with the national Children's Mental Health Awareness Day. The event has recognized individuals, localities, agencies and programs that best exemplify the selected theme. The event is an opportunity to highlight positive work in New York State to promote the mental health of children, youth and young adults.

2020 WHAT'S GREAT IN OUR STATE

Our goal remains the same this year as we celebrate our 10th anniversary of this event! We plan to celebrate on Tuesday, May 5 at the Glen Sanders Mansion in Scotia, NY. The event program is under development and will feature workshops and an awardee recognition luncheon to offer an opportunity to celebrate those working hard to produce positive outcomes for children, youth, young adults and families.

The What's Great in Our State 2020 theme is **20/20: Children's Mental Health Coming into Focus.**

Stay tuned for more details on the extended format and additional offerings, which can be found on social media via [@ChildrensMentalHealthAwareness](https://twitter.com/ChildrensMentalHealthAwareness).

NOMINATION PROCESS

Be part of the process; highlight great work being done! There are six categories for this year's recognition. The categories' descriptions, and details on what the committee is looking for, can be found on page 3. The committee is seeking nominations of individuals, organizations, communities and schools from across New York State that have positively impacted the mental health of children, youth and young adults under the age of 25. Nominations may be internal or external to an individual, organization, community and school.

Please ensure that your nominee is aware that, if a final awardee, we will request their presence at the event on May 5 in Scotia, NY. Travel and hotel expenses will be covered for awardees.

Those making nominations should submit a complete application and the 500 -word narrative by **February 24, 2020** via e-mail to Kate Provencher (Kathryn.Provencher@omh.ny.gov). The following timeline will then be honored leading up to the event:

- March 2, 2020 - Committee members receive applications
- March 2 – March 18, 2020 Committee members review applications and meet to determine awardees
- March 24, 2020 - Awardees and Nominators are contacted.
- If you have any questions about the nominating process or event, contact:

Kathryn.Provencher@omh.ny.gov



Please complete all fields:

1. Date of nomination:
2. Person making nomination:
3. Nominator phone:
4. Nominator e-mail:
5. In what category are you making a nomination (Select ONE only – explanation of categories in instructions):
 Youth/Young Adult Family/Caregiver Lifetime Systems of Care Community Organization or Community Group School or School District
6. Name of individual, community, organization or school being nominated:
7. Nominee contact phone:
8. Nominee contact e-mail:
9. Is the work the nominee does: professional/paid or volunteer
10. How long has the nominee been doing the work for which they are being nominated: (include total number of years):
11. Geographic area nominee serves (check all that apply – defined by NYS Office of Mental regions found at <https://www.omh.ny.gov/omhweb/aboutomh/fieldoffices.html>)
12. Western NY Central NY New York City Long Island Hudson River Statewide **Affirm that nominee predominantly works with individuals younger than 25 years of age:**
 Yes No (this individual is not eligible to be nominated)
13. **Nomination Narrative:** *In 500 words or less, describe how the nominee meets the indicated award category and this year's theme. Please note that narrative descriptions are the only information the committee will have to determine an honoree in each category, so please explicitly demonstrate why the nominee deserves the award. Please be sure to include any salient examples, information that reflects the specifics of the award category and how this nominee reflects this year's theme of **20/20: Children's Mental Health Coming into Focus.***

Note - Due to the number of submissions, content in nomination narratives over the 500-word limit cannot be considered.

14. **Affirm that the word count for the nomination narrative is 500 words or less:**
 Yes (content over the 500-word limit cannot be considered)

The deadline for nominations is February 24, 2020.

Please submit nominations to Kate Provencher via email at Kathryn.provencher@omh.ny.gov.

All nominations will be reviewed by the interagency planning committee, and notifications will be made by March 24, 2020.



AWARD CATEGORIES

Youth/Young Adult: This individual award is given annually to a youth or young adult (up to age 25) who demonstrates active and meaningful work in their organization, school/university or community using their own lived experience. Their work focuses on youth and young adults, including diverse and underserved populations, and may have resulted in: raising awareness about mental health issues; reducing stigma; changing mental health policy or funding; and/or, developing new services or improving existing services. This work can be volunteer or paid experience.

Family/Caregiver: This individual award is given annually to a family member or caregiver who engages in active and meaningful work in an organization or community using their own lived experience. Their work focuses on supporting families and caregivers, including diverse and underserved populations, and may have resulted in: raising awareness about mental health issues or the needs of families whose children have challenges and service needs; reducing stigma; changing mental health policy or funding; and/or developing new services or improving existing services. This work can be volunteer or paid experience.

Lifetime: This individual award is given annually to recognize lifetime commitment through professional and/or volunteer work to strengthening children, youth and families in the development, administration or delivery of mental health services to children, youth and young adults, including diverse and underserved populations. It is expected that individuals in this category will be engaged in this work for a minimum of 15 years. The individual's work should exemplify the Systems of Care philosophy of family-driven, youth-guided, community-based and culturally/linguistically responsive services.

Systems of Care Community: This award is given annually to recognize a local System of Care (a coordinated network of cross-system partners that collaborate using governance or infrastructure to achieve their vision and goals) that exemplifies the Systems of Care philosophy of family-driven, youth-guided, community-based and culturally/linguistically responsive services in its collaborative work. At a minimum, the work cited should include multi-system involvement such as mental health, substance use, intellectual/ developmental disabilities, child welfare, education, juvenile justice, family/youth peers and/or other partners. This local System of Care has had impact on the mental health outcomes of children, youth and families, including those diverse and underserved populations.

Organization or Community Group: This award is given annually to recognize an organization or community group for a specific program, service or special project that demonstrates meeting the mental health challenges in the community which results in positive outcomes for strengthening families, involving families



and is culturally/linguistically responsive. The committee is particularly interested receiving nominations from those which focus efforts on marginalized populations or communities.

School: This award is given annually to recognize a school district or individual school that is implementing services, programming, or a project that demonstrates meeting the mental health challenges in its community which results in positive outcomes for strengthening students, involving families, engaging communities and is culturally/linguistically responsive. The committee is particularly interested receiving nominations from those which focus efforts on marginalized populations or communities.