

2011–2012 Call for Nominations

Brief Nomination Deadline

November 28, 2011



Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Community Health Leaders

Purpose

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Community Health Leaders (CHL) each year honors up to 10 outstanding and otherwise unrecognized individuals who overcome daunting odds to improve health and health care, especially to underserved populations in communities across the United States. The program aims to elevate the work of these unsung leaders through heightened recognition, technical assistance and new leadership opportunities.

Total Awards

The Foundation will make up to 10 awards in the amount of \$125,000 each for the 2011 cycle. Each new leader will receive a personal award of \$20,000 to recognize his or her accomplishments and \$105,000 to support a defined two-year project at the organization with which the leader is associated. Please note that the award is not intended to supplant or extend general operations.

Eligibility Criteria

To be considered for a CHL award, a nominee must:

- have contributed significantly to improving the health of underserved communities by increasing access to health services or quality;
- have positively affected a significant number of people in the targeted community;
- have been involved with the initiative for which he/she is nominated for no less than three years and no more than 10 years;
- have a record of accomplishment associated with the community health issue for which he/she is nominated;
- be a relatively unsung leader, having not received significant national recognition or awards for his/her work;
- be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States or its territories; and
- be affiliated with a public or nonprofit organization that is tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Please note:

Nominations should come only from people who know their candidates well, who are personally inspired by them and who are actually completing the nomination forms. In this process, no weight is given to the job title or position of the nominator. Nominations from development and public relations professionals, professional grant writers and former recipients of the award will not be accepted. A nominee may not nominate him/herself or be a relative of the nominator. Neither the nominee nor the nominator may be staff, family, or Trustees of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation or the Harris Foundation.

Additionally, nominees cannot be related by blood or marriage to any Officer* or Trustee of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, or be a descendant of the Foundation's founder, Robert Wood Johnson.

* *The Officers are the Chairman of the Board of Trustees; President and CEO; Chief of Staff; General Counsel; Secretary; Assistant Secretary; Treasurer; and Assistant Treasurer of the Foundation.*

Selection Criteria

Criteria used to assess nominees will include:

- **Accomplishments:** Achievements in the area of community health during the period that the nominee has been directly affiliated with the initiative or project for which they are being nominated.

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Key Dates and Deadlines

- **November 28, 2011 (3 p.m. ET)**
Deadline for receipt of brief nominations.
- **January 20, 2012**
Nominators notified if their candidates are selected to move to the full nomination stage.
- **March 5, 2012 (3 p.m. ET)**
Deadline for receipt of full nominations.
- **May–July 2012**
Site visits to finalists.
- **September 2012**
Notification of awards.

Inquiries

For information on the award, nomination process or eligibility criteria, please contact the program office:

Emily Thrasher, *program assistant*
RWJF Community Health Leaders
The Harris Foundation
Phone: (832) 319-7380
Email: info@communityhealthleaders.org.

www.communityhealthleaders.org

We encourage all applicants to read the complete details about the program found in the full call for nominations brochure at www.rwjf.org/cfp/chl.

For more information about funding opportunities from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation visit Grants at www.rwjf.org.

Sign up to receive email alerts on upcoming calls for proposals at <http://my.rwjf.org>.



- **Innovation:** Demonstrated ability to break new ground with regard to services, target populations or implementation of new ideas.
- **Collaborative Leadership:** Demonstrated ability to successfully engage diverse stakeholders and sustain partnerships over time.
- **Systems Change:** Demonstrated ability to place health and health care concerns into a larger context (i.e., community, regional, national, political or socio-economic).
- **Impact:** Demonstrated by the number of people affected by the nominee's efforts; the positive effects of the nominee's work on improving quality of life; and the potential future reach and impact of the initiative.
- **Resiliency:** Courage and/or determination in the face of great challenges and the ability to transform obstacles into constructive action to improve or enhance the health of people in their communities.
- **Inspiration:** Ability to inspire others to follow them and mentor and develop future leaders.
- **Level of Recognition:** Received limited national recognition for their work.
- **Career Status:** Currently active with the initiative for which he/she is nominated; should have a record of achievement with this initiative that is no less than three years and no more than 10 years. *This award is not meant to be a capstone achievement for a person nearing retirement. Persons who are retired and meet the criteria in a second career or as a volunteer may be eligible for nomination.*

Consistent with RWJF values, this program embraces diversity and inclusion across multiple dimensions such as race, ethnicity, gender, age, sexual orientation, physical ability, religion and socioeconomic status. We strongly encourage the nomination of candidates who will help us expand the perspectives and experiences we bring to our work. We believe that the more we include diverse perspectives and experiences in our work, the better we are able to help all Americans live healthier lives and get the care they need.

Use of Award Funds

Each award is \$125,000. The leader receives \$20,000 as a direct personal acknowledgement for his/her accomplishments. The recipient also receives \$105,000 to designate to his/her affiliated organization for use in developing or enhancing a defined two-year project that furthers the CHL awardee's work. Please note that the award is not intended to supplant or extend general operations. The awardee, with assistance from the NPO staff, will develop a proposal for the project. The budget for the project can support project-related portions of staff salaries, consultant fees, data collection and analysis, meetings, supplies, project-related travel and other direct project expenses. In keeping with RWJF policy, award funds may not be used to subsidize individuals for the costs of their health care, to support clinical trials of unapproved drugs or devices, to construct or renovate facilities, for lobbying or as a substitute for funds currently being used to support similar activities.

How to Nominate

The CHL award is the culmination of a three-stage selection process. Nominations for this solicitation may be submitted electronically via the RWJF online system or via hard copy through the U.S. Postal Service. Please note that only one of these formats will be accepted per nomination.

For information on the award, nomination process or eligibility criteria, please contact the program office at (832) 319-7380 or by sending an email to info@communityhealthleaders.org.