



*LeadingAge*<sup>™</sup>  
Minnesota

**2020  
Stars  
Among Us  
AWARDS**



**Call for Nominations**

**Entry Deadline:  
Monday, August 5, 2019**

# 2020 Stars Among Us AWARDS

The 2020 Stars Among Us Awards are open for nomination and showcase the best of the best in older adult services. We'll celebrate all the stars at the Institute & Expo, Feb. 5-7, 2020 in Saint Paul. We invite your nominations to recognize your amazing caregivers, volunteers, leaders and the great work your organization is doing to enhance the experience of aging!

## Top 5 Benefits When You Nominate a Team Member or Organizational Initiative

- Celebrate colleagues, staff and volunteers for the wonderful, selfless work they do every day.
- Employee recognition leads to employee satisfaction and retention.
- Toot your own horn about the awesome work your organization is doing.
- Promote Older Adult Services as a meaningful and exciting career choice.
- It's fantastic marketing for your community.

PLUS... it's a great reward for your whole team when you share the news that someone's been nominated or has won an award (*p.s., every person nominated receives a beautiful frame-worthy certificate of recognition from LeadingAge Minnesota that you get to present!*)

## Organizational Awards – Excellence in Practice

- ✧ Quality
- ✧ Innovation
- ✧ Star Workplace
- ✧ Community Collaboration

## Individual Awards

- ✧ Ray Johnson Pioneer Leadership
- ✧ Kal Michels Outstanding Leadership
- ✧ Caregiver of the Year (statewide and district)
- ✧ Volunteer of the Year (statewide and district)
- ✧ Spirit of Aging (statewide and district)
- ✧ Board Trustee of the Year
- ✧ Business Partner Impact

## Eligibility

Stars Among Us Awards are open to provider organizational members and their staff, volunteers and residents/customers (providers of housing, health services, adult day services, supportive services; and their respective corporate or management organizations). Business Partner firms and their staff are eligible for the Community Collaboration, Quality, Innovation and Business Partner Impact Awards with certain conditions.

## Deadline

**Nomination deadline for all awards is Monday, August 5, 2019**

## Selection and Notification

The LeadingAge Minnesota Awards & Recognition Committee reviews all nominations and selects award recipients. Recipients will be notified in November, 2019.

## Rewards, Accolades and Celebrations

Award recipients are publicly honored at the LeadingAge Minnesota Institute, February 5-7, 2020. Feature videos may be produced for select awards. Our public relations team will prepare news releases and photographs to assist with local media outreach.

## How to Nominate

Nominations are submitted online and accessed via <https://www.leadingagemn.org/about/stars-among-us/>.

## Questions

[Awards@LeadingAgeMN.org](mailto:Awards@LeadingAgeMN.org) 651.645.4545

# ORGANIZATIONAL AWARDS – EXCELLENCE IN PRACTICE

## Quality, Innovation, Community Collaboration, Workplace *Showcasing exceptional progress in older adult services*

The Excellence in Practice Awards are a platform to share promising programs and ideas with other LeadingAge Minnesota members to help advance and transform the way we serve older adults. One award is given in each of four award categories.

### Sharing Your Success

Award recipients present their winning programs at the 2020 Institute as a concurrent educational session with an emphasis on demonstrating how other organizations can adopt or replicate the practice.

## QUALITY

Quality initiatives take many forms, but ultimately are intended to improve the customer experience in quality of life or quality of care.

**Ideas:** Organizational culture, lifestyle/culture change, care delivery models, care transitions, workforce, technology, quality systems, wellness, building design, customer experience or other areas.

### Nomination Requirements/Criteria

- Executive Summary – description of the quality program or initiative, why it was developed, specific purpose and goals, and financial implications for start-up, implementation and ongoing operation.
- How this program is different or beyond the scope of standard for quality practices in the field.
- How you will measure or have measured the progress, impact or success of this initiative.
- How this quality initiative can be replicated by other providers.

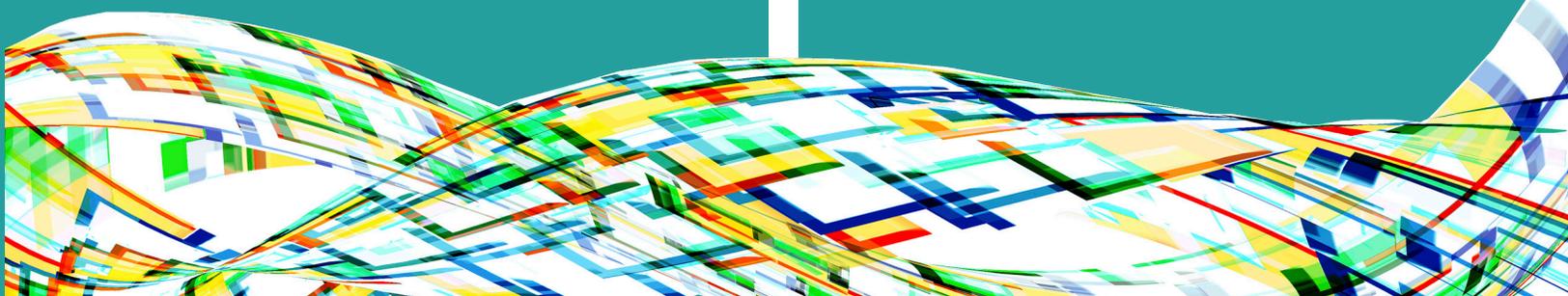
## INNOVATION

Innovation is the realization of a new or creative idea and has the power to transform our field. The subject of the nomination must be new or different in the field of aging services.

**Ideas:** Technology, care delivery, programming and life enrichment, support services, building design, workforce development, marketing, financial, customer experience or another emerging trend.

### Nomination Requirements/Criteria

- Executive Summary – description of the innovation program/design, why it was developed, specific purpose and goals, and financial implications for start-up, implementation and ongoing operation.
- How this innovation is new or different.
- How you will measure or have measured the progress, impact or success of this innovation.
- How this innovation can be replicated by other providers.



# ORGANIZATIONAL AWARDS – EXCELLENCE IN PRACTICE

## COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

Celebrates a Provider or Business Partner member organization that collaborates with a city, agency, community groups or other businesses to go beyond its health service, housing or commercial enterprise role to support and improve the greater community.

**Ideas:** Wellness, health clinic, charitable work, adult education, community resources, community investment, fundraising or other areas.

### Nomination Requirements/Criteria

- Executive Summary – description of the collaborative project/action, why it was developed, specific purpose and goals, and financial implications for start-up, implementation and ongoing operation.
- Describe how the specific initiative or service fills a community need or opportunity beyond the traditional resident care and services or business enterprise.
- How you will measure or have measured the progress, impact or success of this collaborative initiative.
- How this collaboration or initiative can be replicated by other providers and communities.

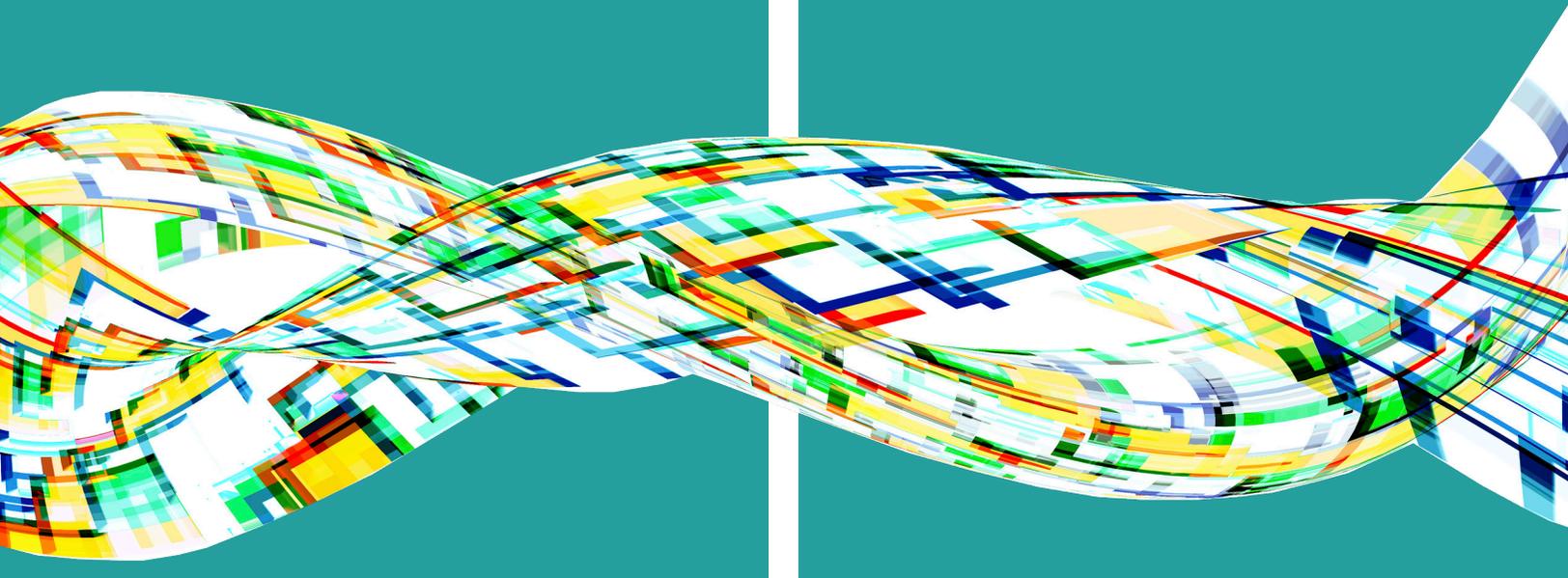
## STAR WORKPLACE

Creating and sustaining a positive work environment is essential to recruiting, developing and retaining a strong workforce.

**Ideas:** Recruitment, onboarding, culture, health and wellness, social/life management supports, professional development, career advancement, collaboration, staff engagement, retention, interdisciplinary team dynamics.

### Nomination Requirements/Criteria

- Executive Summary – description of the workplace initiative, why it was developed, specific purpose and goals, and financial implications for start-up, implementation and ongoing operation.
- Workplace initiative that addresses a specific challenge in your workforce or workplace. Describe both the challenge and the initiative.
- How you will measure or have measured the progress, impact or success of this initiative.
- How this initiative can be replicated by other providers.



# INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

## Leadership Awards

**Eligibility:** Two leadership awards are open to individuals in any service setting, at any level of the organization regardless of title or tenure. We encourage members to think creatively about formal and informal, experienced and emerging leaders in all areas of their organization.

### RAY JOHNSON PIONEER LEADERSHIP

Recognizes a leader who is a change agent for transforming and enhancing older adult services.

#### Nomination Requirements/Criteria

- How this person challenges the status quo to shape the future of older adult services.
- Leadership in engaging and influencing others in leading change.
- Share a story that illustrates how this person is making transformational change in their organization and/or the field of older adult services.
- One letter of support from the nominee's supervisor, site leader or board member.
- Up to three additional letters of support from team members, residents, or community members (optional).

#### Who was Ray Johnson?

*This award is named for the late Ray Johnson, a true pioneer in senior housing. Johnson brought a fine sense of seniors as people of dignity and distinction who are capable of governing themselves and their communities effectively. He was an untiring advocate for older adults' self-determination.*

### KAL MICHELS OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP

Honors a leader whose impact is demonstrated through vision, servanthood, mentoring others, and commitment to older adults.

#### Nomination Requirements/Criteria

- Leadership expressed through vision and service to improve the lives of older adults.
- Actions that demonstrate characteristics of a strong mentor and motivator for others.
- Share a story that illustrates exceptional leadership that has advanced the mission and goals of their organization.
- One letter of support from the nominee's supervisor, site leader or board member.
- Up to three additional letters of support from team members, residents, or community members (optional).

#### Who was Kal Michels?

*This award is named for the late Kal Michels, former administrator of St. Francis Home in Breckenridge and Chair-Elect of LeadingAge Minnesota (then MHHA). He brought a deep commitment to his community, his organization and the people who lived and worked there. His commitment was displayed through the many leadership positions he filled in his community and his unfailing advocacy for quality care and services.*

# INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

## CAREGIVER OF THE YEAR

*(Statewide and District Awards)*

Honors direct and support service caregivers who go beyond expectations to greatly enhance the quality of life for seniors and their communities.

### Eligibility

Any person working in a non-managerial role who has direct contact with the resident or in a supportive role. Members may nominate more than one individual in this category. Caregiver is defined broadly: universal/blended worker, nurse, nursing assistant, personal attendant, care manager, resident assistant, home health aide, health and wellness aide, social worker, activities assistant, rehabilitation/physical therapy, spiritual care, dietary/culinary services, laundry/house-keeping, environmental services/facility management.

### Nomination Requirements/Criteria

- Demonstrates exceptional commitment to those entrusted to their care and/or operational functions of the organization that support direct caregivers.
- Specific actions that go above and beyond the normal care delivery to enhance and enrich the quality of life and/or living conditions of aging persons.
- Share a story that illustrates this person's exceptional caregiving.
- One supporting letter from the site manager.
- Up to three additional letters from team members, residents or families (optional).

## VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

*(Statewide and District Awards)*

Honors a volunteer whose commitment and dedication enhance the quality of life for seniors and their communities.

### Eligibility

Any volunteer or volunteer group of a member provider organization.

### Nomination Requirements/Criteria

- Demonstrates exceptional commitment to older adults through volunteer service.
- Specific actions that go above and beyond the volunteer activity to enhance and enrich the quality of life and/or living conditions of aging persons.
- Share a story that illustrates this person's exceptional volunteerism.
- One supporting letter from the site manager.
- Up to three additional letters from team members, residents or families (optional).

## SPIRIT OF AGING

*(Statewide and District Awards)*

Celebrates an older adult who embodies active and vibrant aging.

### Eligibility

Any resident/tenant/client/participant of a LeadingAge Minnesota member community.

### Nomination Requirements/Criteria

- Embodies the concept of active aging by engaging in a variety of activities that may defy stereotypes.
- Makes a positive difference in the lives of others.
- Share a story that illustrates this person's spirit of aging.
- One supporting letter from the site manager.
- Up to three additional letters from team members, residents or families (optional).



# INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

## BOARD TRUSTEE OF THE YEAR

Salutes a volunteer board member of a member organization whose service, commitment and actions have supported the organization in its mission and service to older adults.

### Eligibility

Any volunteer board member who served in 2019 is eligible.

### Nomination Requirements/Criteria

- Specific evidence of leadership in helping achieve the organization's goals and objectives during their board service.
- Exceptional commitment and actions to enhance and enrich the lives of aging persons served by the organization.
- Share a story that illustrates this person's commitment to good governance.
- One letter of support from the board chair, board member or site leader.
- Up to three additional letters of support from board members, team members, or community members (optional).

## BUSINESS PARTNER IMPACT

Recognizes an individual within the business partner community who shares their time and talent beyond standard commercial enterprise activities to contribute added value to the association, provider members and the aging services field.

### Eligibility

Any employee or owner of an active Business Partner member in good standing. Nomination may be made by a Business Partner firm or Organizational Provider Member or an Individual. The award selection will have no consideration for financial contributions to the association by the individual or the company, nor engagement activities for which a fee is paid to the individual or business partner firm.

**Ideas:** Service on LeadingAge MN committees and task forces, engaging in advocacy efforts to support legislative priorities, serving as expert faculty for association conferences and educational programs, assistance in writing technical manuals, providing relevant content for association newsletter or website, conducting market research and analysis, or other engagement activities not listed here.

### Nomination Requirements/Criteria

- Specific actions that demonstrate engagement with LeadingAge Minnesota activities and having an impact on the provider community and/or the field of aging services.
- Outstanding in promoting the mission and actions of LeadingAge Minnesota and its provider community members.
- Share a story that illustrates this person's commitment to LeadingAge Minnesota and the field of aging services.
- Include one letter of support from a provider organization site leader.
- Up to three additional letters of support from team members, residents, families or community members (optional).

LeadingAge Minnesota  
2550 University Ave. West • Suite 350 South • St. Paul, MN 55114  
www.LeadingAgeMN.org  
651.6545.4545 | 800.462.5368