



Minnesota Hospital Association

2024 MHA FALL AWARDS

Recognizing excellence in innovation, advocacy, and leadership among Minnesota hospitals and health systems

Nominator information packet

About the awards

Thank you for your interest in the Minnesota Hospital Association's (MHA) 2024 Fall Awards. We are excited to hear about your organization's innovations, advocacy, and leadership, the staff who support these areas, and the positive impact they have on your patients, workplaces, and larger communities.

MHA is recognizing the outstanding work happening at Minnesota's hospitals and health systems. Health care organizations are continuing to face unprecedented challenges. These awards will celebrate the many achievements of care teams and staff despite a difficult and changing landscape.

The MHA Fall awards will be presented at the 2024 MHA Annual Meeting on Thursday, Sept. 19, 2024. Register for the Annual Meeting [here](#).

Award areas

Awards will be presented in a variety of categories. Learn more about what initiatives fit under which category by reading the award descriptions. You may nominate as many teams, initiatives, or individuals as you'd like, but separate forms are required for each nomination.

Timeline

The nomination period will be open until 11:59 p.m. on July. 19, 2024. A review committee will review submissions and notify organizations about their award status by middle of August.

How to nominate

Please submit your nomination using the webform found [here](#). Nomination requirements are included in this packet.

Selection criteria

MHA greatly appreciates hearing from members about the work you are doing to innovate, advocate, and lead. Our nomination review committee will make award selections based on nominator answers and the overall quality, effectiveness, and impact of the program. If you have questions about which category your program most closely aligns, please reach out to awards@mnhospitals.org.

Award types and categories

The 2024 MHA Awards are divided into a variety of award types. The following is a non-exhaustive list of what might fit under each category.

Award Categories:

Hospital and Health System Awards Criteria

Exceptional Minnesota Hospital Workplace

The Exceptional Minnesota Hospital Workplace Award is designed to honor hospitals that go the extra mile in enhancing employee satisfaction through basic or creative retention strategies. Nominations should describe improvements that have been made to the work environment, retention efforts currently in place, and how employee work satisfaction has benefited from these improvements. Judging is based on the following criteria:

- Creativity, scope, and implementation of retention strategies.
- Verifiable outcomes in employee satisfaction.
- Demonstrated effectiveness in raising employee morale through a hospital morale tracking system.
- Potential for applicability in other hospitals.
- Employee references of improved work environment.

Community Benefit

The Community Benefit Award recognizes hospitals that have distinguished themselves through efforts to improve the health and well-being of their communities. Nominees should describe a program, project, event, or initiative that is defined as a community benefit by IRS/VHA guidelines. Judging is based on the following criteria:

- Promotes and improves the health and well-being of the community.
- Addresses a demonstrated community need.
- Demonstrates a financial and/or resource investment from the hospital to the community.
- Demonstrates a creative approach to meeting the community need.
- Demonstrates a measurable impact on health equity within the community.

Sustainability

The Sustainability in Health Care award recognizes outstanding efforts and achievements in promoting sustainability within the hospital or health system. This prestigious award honors individuals, teams, and organizations that have demonstrated exceptional commitment to environmental stewardship, resource efficiency, and sustainable practices in health care delivery, including:

- Implemented innovative solutions to reduce the environmental impact of health care operations
- Enhanced the well-being of patients and staff through sustainable initiatives
- Contributed to the long-term viability of health care systems.

Award types and categories

Innovation in Patient Care

The Innovation in Patient Care Award honors hospitals and health systems that have developed or implemented creative, new methods, and models for the delivery of patient care. Judging is based on the following criteria:

- Evidence of spreading and sustaining the progress, practices, ideas, and successes throughout the organization and/or region/state.
- Collaborates with others to promote a culture of excellence.
- Provides data at all levels for continuous improvement.
- Aligns activities and incentives to improve patient care.

Quality and Safety Improvement

The Quality and Safety Improvement Award recognizes a Minnesota hospital or health system that has taken extraordinary and innovative steps to make patient safety a top priority. The hospital should demonstrate its commitment to creating sustainable safety improvements and establishing a foundation for quality and patient safety at all levels of the hospital. Judging is based on the following criteria:

- Evidence of spreading and sustaining the progress, practices, ideas, and successes throughout the organization and/or region/state.
- Promotes a culture of safety.
- Provides data at all levels for continuous improvement.
- Demonstrated engagement of patients and families throughout organization.

Individual Awards Criteria

Caregiver(s) of the Year

The Caregiver(s) of the Year Award is designed to honor an individual or caregiving team that provides outstanding patient-care services and exemplifies commitment to quality patient care. Judging will be based on the following criteria:

- Demonstrated outstanding delivery of patient care and participation/leadership in hospital patient services.
- Participation in activities and practices that help increase patient satisfaction.
- Commitment to the hospital and its community through participation in hospital patient care/community improvement efforts.

Award types and categories

Spirit of Advocacy

The Spirit of Advocacy Award honors an MHA member who has provided leadership within their organization or for MHA and served in key roles with the MHA governance structure during the year. Judging is based on the following criteria:

- Demonstrated leadership in MHA's governance structure, committees, or work groups.
- Grassroots advocacy efforts in his/her facility or community to benefit Minnesota's hospitals or health systems.
- Demonstrated leadership at the community level in the promotion of health care issues.

Trustee(s) of the Year

The Trustee(s) of the Year Award honors a board member of a hospital or health system who has contributed significantly to the health of the community by providing leadership and guidance to the hospital or health system board. Judging will be based on the following criteria:

- Assisted the hospital in design and delivery of services or programs significant to the health and welfare of the community.
- Provided leadership at the local, state, or federal level in initiating and promoting cooperative programs among community members who share goals related to the delivery of health services within the community.
- Demonstrated leadership or involvement in the field of hospital governance.

Volunteer(s) of the Year

The Volunteer(s) of the Year is someone whose activities benefit the well-being of both patients and the hospital, and who stands as an inspirational example of hospital volunteerism. Judging is based on the following criteria:

- Commitment to hospitals and health systems through participation in hospital auxiliary organizations or by directly volunteering within a hospital.
- Participation in activities that benefit the hospital and its patients, serving as a role model of hospital volunteerism.
- Active leadership position in a state auxiliary or other volunteer organization.

Questions and answers

Can I submit nominations for multiple awards?

Yes. You may submit multiple nominations within each category. Submit one form for each nomination.

Can I nominate one person or project for multiple categories?

No. If you have questions about which category is best for your nomination, please contact awards@mnhospitals.org.

Does the work have to be completed in the current calendar year?

No. We want to hear about all successful initiatives, regardless of the length of time they have existed. We encourage nominators to include context about how the individual's role has changed over time to better meet the organization's needs.

Can I nominate my team or myself for an award?

Yes. You may nominate yourself for an individual award. Similarly, you may nominate a team of which you are a member.

Can I submit a nomination on behalf of an organization that I do not work for?

Nominators must be associated with the hospital or health system for which they are submitting a nomination. If you do not work for the organization, you must be authorized by the hospital or health system's CEO or designee to submit a nomination for these awards. If you know of a leader or initiative outside of your organization that deserves to be nominated, we highly encourage you to send them this information packet.

Do submissions need to be for health care workers, or can our nomination include initiatives that include other types of workers (for example, IT, accounting, environmental services, etc.)?

Hospitals and health systems rely on many roles to deliver quality care for patients. You may submit nominations that describe individuals and initiatives that positively impact clinical and non-clinical staff. As long as your initiative or individual is helping your organization, we want to hear from you!



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Questions

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