

Call for Nominations

The Public Health Service (PHS) Commissioned Officers Foundation (COF) is seeking Nominations for the 2011 Carruth Wagner and Mabel May Wagner Awards

Deadline for Submission of Nominations: 15 April 2011

The PHS Commissioned Officers Foundation (COF) is pleased to announce a call for nominations for the **2011 Carruth Wagner and Mabel May Wagner Awards**. The five *Carruth Wagner* awards are named in honor of Dr. Carruth Wagner who dedicated his life to improving the health of the Nation. During his 30-year service to the U.S. Government and later contributions to the California Department of Health, he championed the development of medical professionals, future leaders, health policy and innovative public health improvements. He recognized that all levels of health professionals have the capacity to influence, and improve, the health of communities. Dr. Wagner served as the second Director of the Indian Health Service (1962 – 1965), and is credited as a pioneer in developing innovative education and training techniques designed to enhance quality health care providers and proficient management systems to improve health care delivery systems. The *Mabel May Wagner* award was established in 1979 and is open to all nurses in the Public Health Service (Commissioned Corps and Civil Service) who are engaged in clinical nursing practice.

Each of the Carruth Wagner and Mabel May Wagner Awards will include a \$1,000 cash award and will require the awardee to complete an Ethics Review Form to be endorsed by their respective agency's Ethics Officer before the cash award can be received.

Carruth Wagner Awards

The five Carruth Wagner Awards will be presented to each award recipient by a representative of the COF at the Annual PHS COF Scientific and Training Symposium on Nurse Category Day.

Eligibility

These awards are open to Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) nurses (Civil Service, Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service, or Tribal I/T/U) as well as nurses nominated from non-HHS agencies that are supported by blanket memorandum of agreements (MOA) with the U.S. Public Health Service. Additionally, ancillary support staff/clinical support staff of said agencies may also apply for the *Clinical Nursing Support Award* further described in this document.

Criteria

Nominee(s) must demonstrate through innovation and creativity, outstanding nursing contributions with measurable benefits to the health and wellness of the public. The exceptional contributions must be “above and beyond” normally expected performance of duty. Nurses meeting the individual award criteria may be nominated for the any of the following Carruth Wagner Awards:

Nurse of the Year Award

This award honors the legacy of Dr. Carruth Wagner who valued the importance of nurses in public health. The award acknowledges the nominees successful leadership and contributions to education, training, career development, and mentoring, all of which contribute to building a strong nursing workforce and a strong public health infrastructure. The nominee should demonstrate one or more of the following criteria:

- Demonstrates strong public health service, leadership and excellence in developing and implementing career development programs to enhance the public health nursing workforce and the retention of nurses.
- Demonstrates strong mentorship which illustrates the nominee's assistance to help others not only to pursue but to develop competencies to build their educational and professional goals in developing a strong career in public health.
- Engages in multiple and creative recruitment services which results in successful recruitment initiatives for the selection and placement of highly qualified health care professionals in areas of need.
- Directly/indirectly develops and/or improves programs supporting the education and training of health care workers and nurses who may serve in a variety of locations including remote areas and underserved locations.

This award is open to Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) nurses (Civil Service, Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service, or Tribal I/T/U) as well as nurses nominated from non-HHS agencies that are supported by blanket memorandum of agreements (MOA) with the U.S. Public Health Service.

Clinical Nursing Support Award

The Clinical Nursing Support award was developed to recognize the ability of ancillary support staff/clinical support staff that offer significant contributions to the public health of the Nation using innovative delivery concepts or health initiatives/policies which directly support and impact the health of a population.

The Clinical Nursing Support award nominee should demonstrate one or more of the following characteristics:

- Outstanding activities or accomplishments within job duties or collateral responsibilities that exemplify devotion, influence, and significant support to and impact on a group, population or community which has resulted in the improvement, development and implementation of a program, delivery system or health of a population.
- Excellence in demonstrating professional leadership and growth in their role by expanding their expertise, reflecting the development of themselves as future leaders.
- Extraordinary leadership in public health practice outside of job duties or collateral responsibilities that demonstrates commitment to public service.

- Innovative or unique way of accomplishing the collaborative effort of the health project, program, or activity.

This award is open to all ancillary support staff/clinical support staff (e.g. LPN, LVN, CNA, Medical Secretary and others) of eligible Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) agencies (Civil Service, Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service, or Tribal I/T/U) as well as non-HHS agencies that are supported by blanket memorandum of agreements (MOA) with the U.S. Public Health Service.

Advanced Practice Nurse Award

This award was established to recognize Advanced Practice Nurses who have utilized their advanced degree to contribute to an innovation or program that significantly impacted the health of a community or population. This award is open to all Advanced Practice Nurses. For the purpose of this award, an Advanced Practice Nurse is defined as a nurse who has a post-baccalaureate degree in his/her clinical specialty and is board certified in a nursing specialty (i.e., Nurse Anesthetist, Nurse Practitioner, Nurse Midwife, or Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS)).

The nominee should demonstrate one or more of the following characteristics:

- The advanced practice nurse should have had a substantial impact on clinical care for an entire community of patients.
- The nominee has worked with an organized national disease prevention and health promotion program that has made a substantial impact on disease rates, health disparities, and individual patients' lives.
- The advanced practice nurse nominee has made substantial impact in his/her program area of expertise in one of the following areas: practice, research, education, program management or policy development.

This award is open to Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) nurses (Civil Service, Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service, or Tribal I/T/U) as well as nurses nominated from non-HHS agencies that are supported by blanket memorandum of agreements (MOA) with the U.S. Public Health Service.

Innovative Collaboration in Public Health Award

This award was established to recognize professional nurses who have innovatively contributed to successful partnerships or collaborations between countries, programs, agencies, projects or initiatives. This award recognizes the nominee's successful contributions to building health partnerships and collaborations that foster the development of innovative health delivery systems and healthy populations.

The nominee should demonstrate one or more of the following characteristics:

- Demonstrated excellence in managing or developing a comprehensive program, health project or activity with successful collaborations that affect health and healthcare delivery. Collaborations can be between tribal, local government,

nongovernmental organizations and national/global programs, within or outside of HHS.

- Exemplify clinical or project management expertise that results in a significant impact to health, health diplomacy, improved care delivery or an enhanced public health infrastructure.
- Demonstrated leadership in developing or implementing innovative strategies to enhance collaboration and partnerships in clinical, administrative, educational, policy or program management initiatives.

This award is open to Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) nurses (Civil Service, Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service, or Tribal I/T/U) as well as nurses nominated from non-HHS agencies that are supported by blanket memorandum of agreements (MOA) with the U.S. Public Health Service.

Nursing Leadership Award

This award recognizes professional nurses who have significantly contributed to the retention and recruitment of nurses. This award honors the legacy of Dr. Carruth Wagner who valued the importance of nurses in public health. The award acknowledges the nominees successful leadership and contributions to education, training, career development, and mentoring, all of which contribute to building a strong nursing workforce and a strong public health infrastructure.

The nominee should demonstrate one or more of the following criteria:

- Demonstrates strong public health service, leadership and excellence in developing and implementing career development programs to enhance the public health nursing workforce and the retention of nurses.
- Demonstrates strong mentorship which illustrates the nominee's assistance to help others not only to pursue but to develop competencies to build their educational and professional goals in developing a strong career in public health.
- Engages in multiple and creative recruitment services which results in successful recruitment initiatives for the selection and placement of highly qualified health care professionals in areas of need.
- Directly/indirectly develops and/or improves programs supporting the education and training of health care workers and nurses who may serve in a variety of locations including remote areas and underserved locations.

This award is open to Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) nurses (Civil Service, Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service, or Tribal I/T/U) as well as nurses nominated from non-HHS agencies that are supported by blanket memorandum of agreements (MOA) with the U.S. Public Health Service.

Mabel May Wagner Award

Eligibility

This award is open to Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) nurses (Civil Service, Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service, or Tribal I/T/U) as well as nurses nominated from non-HHS agencies that are supported by blanket memorandum of agreements (MOA) with the U.S. Public Health Service.

The nominee should demonstrate at least one of the following criteria:

- Exemplifies resourcefulness and dedication in helping to accomplish the mission of the Public Health Service;
- Demonstrates professional and technical skills and competence raising the quality of nursing;
- Displays evidence of exceptional ability to apply nursing standards of practice;
- Remains involved in continuing education as a participant, organizer or sponsor of it; and
- Is of such excellence as to merit Public Health Service recognition.

Nomination Procedure for all the listed Awards

Anyone may nominate an eligible nurse for service that meets the purpose for which these awards have been established. Each *Carruth Wagner* and *Mabel May Wagner* Award will include a \$1,000 cash award and will require the awardee to complete an Ethics Review Form (HHS and/or Non-HHS) to be endorsed by their respective agency's Ethics Officer (An HHS Ethics form is attached as part of nomination packet) and any additional forms required by your agency.

Any employer or employee of all agencies that hire PHS Civil Service Nurses, PHS Commissioned Corps Nurses, and/or Indian Health Service Nurses (I/T/U) may nominate a nurse (see specific award eligibility criteria) for which this award has been established in the form of a letter containing:

- name, title and grade or rank of the nominee;
- work experience and educational background of the nominee;
- a brief description of the nominee's present duties and responsibilities including the scope of work;
- a narrative statement of how the person meets the criteria for the award including a description of the specific accomplishments and/or contributions on which the nomination is based; (**limited to two pages**)
- must state, in writing, that the individual is in good standing and has an active RN license on file (for Commissioned Corps officers it must be on file with the Office of Commissioned Corps Operations (OCCO));
- an endorsement by the nominee's supervisor (responsible for ensuring the candidate's good standing and work performance);
- one blinded copy (i.e. delete the nominees and nominators name and other

identifying information from all pages of pages of the submitted nomination write up).

Nomination Process

All nominations will be reviewed by a committee established by the PHS Commissioned Officers Foundation and chaired by a Foundation Trustee. For Commissioned Corps Officers, the final OCCO verification will be completed to ensure that there are no outstanding, adverse actions and that an active nursing license is on file; all commissioned corps officers must be classified as OFRD basic ready.

One award may be given in each category, but an award in every category may not be given every year. Selection will be based solely on the submitted nominations. Final selection and presentation will be made by COF.

Nominations **must be received electronically by close of business on 10 April 2011**, and should be sent directly to Teresa Hayden Foley at the PHS COF at *THayden@coausphs.org*. Submissions received after 10 April 2011 will not be accepted. If you require additional information, Mrs. Foley can be reached at the email above or at 301.731.9080.

Contact information for the *nominator and nominee* must be included with the nomination. Please provide current e-mail addresses, a physical mailing address for the nominee, PHS# (if nominee is a Commissioned Officer), and current telephone numbers for both the nominator and nominee.

Commissioned Officers Foundation (COF)-Carruth Wagner and Mabel May Wagner Nursing Awards Subcommittee Monetary Award processing Form

You have been nominated to receive a cash nursing award sponsored by the Commissioned Officer Foundation, a private nonprofit organization that is outside of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). You, as the nominee, must obtain the appropriate ethic office approval(s) through your Ethics office and submit signed documentation. The Ethics office endorsement is mandated for all HHS employees (including Commissioned Corps officers). Therefore, you must complete the *Form for Review/Approval for Awards* form. Please contact your department or agency's Ethics office to ensure that the proper forms are completed and any concerns are addressed at that time. (Ethics office references are listed on page 2 of this document).

After you have obtained approval through your Ethics office (as indicated above), **submit the signed Form for Review/Approval for Awards form along with this COF Monetary Award processing form.** Please submit these forms electronically to: Mrs. Teresa Hayden Foley, Director of Administration at COF at THayden@coausphs.org.

All below sections must be completed.

Your Rank/Name: _____ PHS SERNO: _____
Job Title: _____ Agency: _____
Work address: _____ Email address: _____

Work Phone: _____

Supervisors please complete the following:

- a) Will the officer be able to attend the COF Scientific and Training Symposium? YES / NO
- b) Will the officer receive agency funding for travel? YES / NO

Recommendation of Supervisor:

_____ Approved _____ Disapproved

Supervisor's Name [print] [signature] Date

Nominee, please complete the following:

Have you obtained the appropriate ethics form with recommendation signature of Deputy Ethics Counselor or Other Approving Authority: YES / NO

You as the undersigned NOMINEE certifies that the statements made and information provided on this form are true, complete, and correct to the best of your knowledge.

Nominee's Name [print] [signature] Date

Ethics Office References

Agency Deputy Ethics Counselors and Ethics Coordinators – contact information can be found at <http://www.hhs.gov/ogc/contact/contacts.html>

Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP)

BOP Ethics Office

L. Christina Griffiths

(202) 514-6165; Fax (202) 616-2080

United States Marshall Service (USMS)

Robert Marcovici

(202) 307-9728

robert.marcovici@usdoj.gov

For agencies not listed above, please contact the respective agency's PHS Commissioned Corps Liaison for assistance in identifying the Ethics Office point of contact.