2018 VHCF

Unsung Heroes Award

Nomination

 **The Virginia Health Care Foundation Invites You to**

**Nominate An Unsung Hero...**

Unsung heroes: *Dedicated volunteers, gracious donors, exceptional physicians, extraordinary teams and remarkable employees, all committed to providing*

*primary health care to uninsured and medically underserved Virginians.*

*Unsung Heroes are role models who have provided excellent service, commitment, and dedication to one of the Virginia Health Care Foundation’s current or*

 *graduated projects.*

The Virginia Health Care Foundation (*VHCF*) is pleased to announce that it is now accepting nominations for its 2018 Unsung Hero Awards. These awards recognize outstanding efforts that have substantially benefitted various VHCF-funded projects and their patients/clients. They will be presented at the Foundation’s *Heroes in Health Care* celebration in Spring 2018. Each winner receives a special gift and a $2,000 monetary award for the organization nominating him/her, made possible by the Virginia Association of Health Plans.

**Please note, Unsung Heroes many be nominated by any organization that has successfully graduated from VHCF funding since 1992.**

We invite you to nominate someone from ***one*** of the following categories (*volunteer, donor, physician, teamwork, or employee*) who has made a real difference for your organization. An independent panel of judges will review all nominations and select a winner in each category. The winners will receive their special Unsung Hero Awards at VHCF’s *Heroes in Health Care* celebration this spring. Videos of VHCF’s 2017 Unsung Heroes are available by [clicking here](http://www.vhcf.org/heroes/unsung-heroes/).

The Unsung Heroes Award is designed so that your nominee can be your local Unsung Hero, too. You can publicize this person in your area as a way to boost morale and obtain community recognition and appreciation for your organization. This is a wonderful opportunity to highlight your organization locally and throughout the Commonwealth. This visibility can be very helpful in any fundraising or marketing efforts you undertake.

Nomination packets are enclosed. Please send **only one nomination per organization.** The nomination form must be received at VHCF **no later than 5pm, Friday,**

**January 27, 2018.** We encourage you to complete and return the enclosed materials promptly. Please call or email Kari Parkhurst at (804) 828-5804 / kari@vhcf.org if you have any questions. We look forward to receiving your nomination!

**Hero Award Categories**

***Volunteer*** - presented to the *volunteer* who has demonstrated exceptional service to a current or graduated VHCF project (*for example, a dentist, nurse, other health care personnel, retiree, student, business professional).*

***Donor*** - presented to a local *donor* for indispensable assistance or an extraordinary contribution made to a current or graduated VHCF project.

***Physician*** - presented to a *physician* who has made a significant impact in increasing the volume and/or quality of medical care available to the uninsured patients of a current or graduated VHCF project.

***Teamwork*** - presented to the *team* *or group* of volunteers or employees whose outstanding teamwork has been instrumental in obtaining extraordinary results for a current or graduated VHCF project.

***Employee*** - presented to an *employee* who has enthusiastically gone above and beyond the call of duty to increase access to primary care and assure the success of a current or graduated VHCF project.

**Nomination Criteria**

*Nominees shall exemplify the following four criteria:*

1. The nominee shall have demonstrated exceptional service to the nominating organization.
2. The nominee shall exemplify dedication to enhancing access to primary care for uninsured and medically underserved Virginians.
3. The nominee shall possess a strong interest and commitment to the patients, the grantee, and all community partners.
4. The nominee shall inspire and promote excellence in others.

**Submission Requirements**

1. Organizations that are currently funded or have successfully graduated from VHCF funding, may submit ONE nomination. Choose the ONE award category that best suits your nominee (*Volunteer, Donor, Physician, Teamwork, or Employee*).
2. All nominations should answer each of the questions on the nomination form. You can use the enclosed form, or go to <http://www.vhcf.org/heroes/heroes-in-health-care/nominate-an-unsung-hero/> to download a blank nomination form ready for editing. Please give specific examples, results of the nominee’s efforts, and as many details as possible.
3. The nomination form should be accompanied by at least two letters of support for the nomination that provide specific information and testimonials about the nominee.
4. Unsung Hero nomination packets must be **received at VHCF no later than 5pm Friday, January 27, 2018.**

Please submit nomination packets to:

**Unsung Heroes Award**

**Virginia Health Care Foundation**

**707 East Main Street, Suite 1350**

**Richmond, Virginia 23219**

Or email completed nomination form and letters of support to Kari Parkhurst at kari@vhcf.org .

All nominations will be reviewed by an independent selection committee comprised of state policymakers, VHCF donors, a communications professional, and a VHCF board member.

Awards for each category will be presented at VHCF’s *Heroes in Health Care* celebration in the spring. If you have any questions, please contact Kari Parkhurst or Rachel Rees at 804-828-5804 or kari@vhcf.org /rachel@vhcf.org

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Please complete the following information regarding your organization’s nominee for the Virginia Health Care Foundation’s *Unsung Heroes Award*. Specific examples, quotes from colleagues or patients, and any comparative data (*before and after*) help the judges understand the impact a nominee has made. Your nomination packet should also contain two letters of support.

**Nominating Categories**

For which category are you submitting a nomination? (*Circle One*)

Volunteer

Employee

Teamwork

Physician

Donor

**PART I: Who Are You Nominating?**

**Contact Information for your Unsung Hero Nominee(s):**

Name(s):

Title(s):

Organization(s):

Mailing Address(es):

Phone Number(s):

Email Address(es):

**Name and description of the current or successfully graduated VHCF project in which the Nominee participates:**

**Contact Information for Nominator:**

Name:

Title:

Organization:

Mailing Address:

Phone Number:

E-mail Address:

**PART II – Why should your nominee win?**

1. What are your nominee’s greatest achievements in assisting your organization and enhancing access to primary care for uninsured or medically underserved Virginians? (*eg. obstacles overcome, problems solved, innovations created, longevity of service, volume of people served.)*

2. Please detail how the nominee makes him/herself indispensable to your organization, and/or initiative. (*Include specific duties and data to demonstrate ongoing work.)*

3. Please provide specific examples and descriptions that demonstrate how the nominee inspires others and encourages excellence throughout the initiative or organization.

4. Please provide some testimonials or other stories about the nominee’s impact or stellar performance. (*Winning nominations usually include inspiring quotes and specific anecdotes about the nominee’s work. Compelling stories help the judges understand the merits of the nominee.*)

5. Please provide any additional comments or information that you feel would help the judges better understand the nominee.

(*Responses do not need to be limited to the space provided on this form. Please feel free to submit responses on separate pages to ensure adequate space. We encourage you to electronically download the form at* [*http://www.vhcf.org/heroes/heroes-in-health-care/nominate-an-unsung-hero/*](http://www.vhcf.org/heroes/heroes-in-health-care/nominate-an-unsung-hero/)*. Completed nominations maybe e-mailed to Kari Parkhurst at* *kari@vhcf.org**. Letters of support may be scanned and emailed, faxed, or mailed under separate copy.*)

  