



STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

ELIZABETH HERTEL
DIRECTOR

May 5, 2023

Dear Local Public Health Officers:

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) *2023 Director's Award to Local Public Health* will be presented during the Annual Michigan Premier Public Health Conference, being held October 2-4, 2023, at Shanty Creek Resort, in Bellaire, Michigan.

A variety of partners join MDHHS to plan, organize, and contribute funding for this conference event. These collaborative efforts have resulted in new partnerships and the subsequent combining of several award programs for presentation at the conference. MDHHS will join Michigan Association for Local Public Health and the Michigan Public Health Association to present the award at a luncheon on October 3, 2023.

Established in 1983, the *MDHHS Director's Award* is presented annually to a LHD in recognition of excellence in public health. This year's award recognizes LHDs that are using innovative approaches to improve health, well-being and equity. Successful awardees will demonstrate they are using innovative approaches by addressing healthy behaviors, community safety, built environment, and/or social/environmental factors.

Nominations from local health departments (LHD) are now being accepted by MDHHS. Award criteria, guidelines, and selection timeline to submit nominations for the 2023 MDHHS Director's Award is attached. **Nominations are due by 5:00 pm EST, on Friday, July 14, 2023, by e-mail to MDHHS-LocalHealthServices@michigan.gov.**

We encourage you to take the opportunity to highlight your outstanding programs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Sarah Lyon-Callo".

Sarah Lyon-Callo, M.S., Ph.D.
Interim Senior Deputy Director / State Epidemiologist
Public Health Administration

SL:jw

Attachments

c: Division of Local Health Services
MALPH Forums Listserv

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

2023 Director's Award Criteria For Excellence in Local Public Health

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is accepting nominations from local health departments for the 2023 Director's Award. This year's award recognizes LHDs that are using innovative approaches to improve health, well-being and equity. Successful awardees will demonstrate they are using innovative approaches by addressing healthy behaviors, community safety, built environment, and/or social/environmental factors.

The program, intervention or policy has:

1. **Adopted and adapted strategies to combat the evolving leading causes of illness, injury and premature death.** *Example: Preventing and responding to today's leading causes of illness and death: heart disease, cancer, respiratory illness, stroke, and unintentional injuries and overdoses.*
2. **Developed strategies for promoting health and well-being that work most effectively for communities of today and tomorrow.** *Example: Tapping new strategies to more effectively confront and reduce health disparities and using health equity approaches that specifically improve health in poorly resourced areas.*
3. **Identified, analyzed, and distributed information from new and/or real time data sources.** *Example: Using data from novel sources or in innovative ways to address social, economic, and/or environmental determinants of health. This includes using data in innovative ways (or from new sources) to inform public health policy, action, or decision-making toward improved health outcomes.*
4. **Built a more integrated, effective health system through collaboration between clinical care and public health.** *Example: Forming close and interactive relationships with clinical providers and health insurers within the jurisdiction/municipality to increase efficiency and achieve better outcomes.*
5. **Collaborated with a broad array of partners—including those at the neighborhood level and the non-health sectors—to build health and more vital communities.** *Example: Engaging with public and private community stakeholders to form vibrant structured cross-sector partnerships to foster shared funding, services, governance, and collective action. This entails working beyond a limited circle of partnerships, utilizing cross-disciplinary collaboration, and forging close partnerships with non-health oriented organizations.*

GUIDELINES FOR PREPARATION OF THE NOMINATION

1. Application must be no longer than five (5) pages. Only one program (application) per local health department will be considered.
 2. Application must be prepared as a Microsoft Word document in Times New Roman font, 12-point size, and double spaced.
 3. Application must contain a minimum of three of the five sections that directly correspond to the Director's Award criteria for excellence in local public health.
 4. One complete electronic copy of the application transmitted as an email attachment, is due to MDHHS Local Health Services by: **5:00 pm EST on Friday, July , 2023.**
-

SELECTION PROCESS TIMELINE

July 28, 2023:	Submission deadline for all applications.
August 25, 2023:	Completed review of applications by the 2023 Director's Award Application Review Committee.
September 1, 2023:	All applicants notified of their application status.
October 3, 2023:	MDHHS Director's Award presentation at Michigan Premier Public Health Conference.