



2026 CHAMPS Awards

Information & Nomination Form

Please submit nominations to Andrea@CHAMPSonline.org
by Friday, August 7, 2026.

Please join Community Health Association of Mountain/Plains States (CHAMPS) in recognizing exceptional health centers and outstanding staff and board members from health centers and related organizations in Region VIII (CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY) by submitting a **CHAMPS Award** nomination. Awardees will have demonstrated exceptional contributions to the Community Health Center Movement through their advocacy, leadership, and dedication to the health center mission. To learn more about last year's awardees and award ceremony, and/or to review lists of award winners from previous years, please visit the [CHAMPS Awards](#) webpage.

AWARD CATEGORIES & DESCRIPTIONS

- **Emerging Star**

The CHAMPS Emerging Star Award recognizes an outstanding up-and-coming staff member whose exceptional promise, dedication, and work have significantly enriched a health center and its outcomes and/or advanced the mission and goals of the Community Health Center Movement.

Eligible individuals include Region VIII CHC or PCA representatives with five or fewer years of CHC/PCA experience. The CHAMPS Emerging Star Awardee will receive a registration scholarship to the CHAMPS/NWRPCA Annual Primary Care Conference.

- **Excellence in Innovation***

The CHAMPS Excellence in Innovation Award honors a health center which showcases innovation, effectiveness, creativity, and adaptability in addressing needs within the organization or the broader community it serves.

Examples of areas of innovation may include, but are not limited to, those focusing on:

- Addressing patient needs via non-traditional programs.*
- Committing to operational resiliency and responsibility.*
- Leveraging community resources to enhance sustainability.*
- Fostering a skilled and resilient current and/or future workforce.*

- **Exceptional Administrative Leadership**

The CHAMPS Exceptional Administrative Leadership Award honors individuals who demonstrate innovative and effective strategies that strengthen their health centers and communities.

- **Exceptional Board Leadership**

The CHAMPS Exceptional Board Leadership Award recognizes health center board of directors members who exemplify dedication to and excellence within community-led governance.

- **Exceptional Clinical Leadership**

The CHAMPS Exceptional Clinical Leadership Award is bestowed upon medical, dental, behavioral health, and other clinical staff members who display outstanding service and commitment to improving the health and well-being of their patients and communities.

- **Outstanding Advocate of the Underserved**

The CHAMPS Outstanding Advocate of the Underserved Award acknowledges those who champion the populations served by Region VIII health centers, going above and beyond to increase access and improve health outcomes.

**Nominations for the Excellence in Innovation Award will be accepted for health center organizations only.*

Award Categories & Descriptions continue on the following page.



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AWARD CATEGORIES & DESCRIPTIONS, CONTINUED

- **Outstanding Legislative Leadership**

The CHAMPS Outstanding Legislative Leadership Award is presented to leaders in local, state, or national government, at a public or private agency, or within a health center or related organization, who make significant efforts to advance community health policy.

Nominees for the Outstanding Legislative Leadership Award need not meet the CHAMPS Organizational Membership requirement.

- **Stanley J. Brasher Legacy**

The CHAMPS Stanley J. Brasher Legacy Award was created by the CHAMPS Executive Committee in 2013 to honor individuals who have dedicated their careers to solving the problems of health, poverty, and human rights and who have contributed toward the mission and recognition of community health centers in the Mountain/Plains States.

NOMINATION REQUIREMENTS

- All nominees must be affiliated with a current Organizational Member of CHAMPS, with the exception of nominees for the Outstanding Legislative Leadership Award. For a complete list of current member organizations, please visit the [CHAMPS Organizational Members](#) webpage.
- Nominating organizations may submit only one award nomination per nominated individual and/or organization, and each nominee may be nominated in only one category.
- Note that, if selected to receive an award, the nominee name as it appears on the nomination form will be how the awardee name appears on the final award and related materials.
- Nominations must use the following form (attachments allowed) and be received by **Friday, August 7, 2026**.
- Submit nominations to Andrea Martin, CHAMPS Workforce Development and Member Services Director, at Andrea@CHAMPSonline.org. Email submissions are preferred.

SELECTION & RECOGNITION PROCESS

- The [CHAMPS Executive Committee](#) will review all nominations and select the awardees.
 - Prioritized nominations will display long-term commitment to community health (with the exception of nominees for the Emerging Star and Excellence in Innovation Awards) and high levels of achievement at the local, state, regional, and/or national level.
 - All nominators will receive notification about the Executive Committee's selections via an email from Andrea@CHAMPSonline.org as soon as possible after those decisions have been made.
- Awards will be presented during an Awards Ceremony which will be held virtually in conjunction with the CHAMPS Annual Board of Directors meeting in late 2026/early 2027; additional scheduling information will be provided in early autumn 2026.
- Contact Andrea@CHAMPSonline.org with any questions.



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NOMINEE

Organization*

Address

For individual (not organizational) nominations, please also provide:

Name*

Title

Years of Service

E-mail

Phone

**If selected to receive an award, the organization/individual name as it appears in these locations will be how the awardee name appears on the final award and related materials.*

CATEGORY OF AWARD/NOMINATION

Check the name of the award you are nominating this individual/organization for (select ONE):

Emerging Star Award

Excellence in Innovation Award*

Exceptional Administrative Leadership Award

Exceptional Board Leadership Award

Exceptional Clinical Leadership Award

Outstanding Advocate of the Underserved Award

Outstanding Legislative Leadership Award

Stanley J. Brasher Legacy Award

**Nominations for the Excellence in Innovation Award will be accepted for health center organizations only. Nominations for all other award categories will be accepted for individuals only.*

NOMINATED BY

Name

Title

E-mail

Organization

Address

Phone



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NOMINATION STATEMENT

Please describe why you are nominating this individual or health center for an award. You may type your nomination statement below or submit it on a separate document. **However, please limit your nomination statement to a total of one page.** Thank you!