

# **MSSA Region 9 Award Nominations Form**

Each year, MSSA Region 9 recognizes persons who have made significant contributions to the Human Service field with awards presented at the annual fall conference. **This is your opportunity to recognize someone who has made a significant contribution to the Human Service field! There are nine award categories, and we know there are great people out there who deserve recognition!** MSSA will present the awards at our annual fall conference on September 25, 2009.

**Award nominations are due by Friday, September 11, 2009!**

## **I AM NOMINATING:**

Name:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Phone Number:

Email:

## **MARK THE APPROPRIATE AWARD CATEGORY** (please see descriptions on following pages):

- Individual Distinguished Service
- Outstanding Staff Achievement
- Outstanding Student
- Community Collaboration
- Volunteer Service
- Child Foster Care
- Adult Foster Care
- Special Needs Foster Care
- Kinship Care Provider

## **INFORMATION ON PERSON MAKING NOMINATION:**

Name and Signature:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Phone Number:

Email:

**DESCRIPTIVE STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF THE NOMINATION:** (Address how the nominee meets established criteria for this award. Please be specific, all awards are based on this information. The information may be typed here or attached to the form.)

**MAIL TO:** Andrea Loken-Schmidt  
Minnesota Security Hospital  
Bartlett Hall 2 South  
100 Freeman Drive  
St. Peter, MN 56082

**FAX TO:** (507) 985-3313 with attention to Andrea Loken-Schmidt

**E-MAIL TO:** andrea.loken-schmidt@state.mn.us

**CONFIRMATION:** No confirmation will be sent. Please contact Andrea Loken-Schmidt at the phone number above if you would like to verify that the award nomination has been received.

**QUESTIONS:** Contact Andrea Loken-Schmidt at (507) 985-2063.

**DEADLINE:** Noon on Friday, September 11, 2009

## **ALL NOMINATIONS MUST INCLUDE THIS NOMINATIONS FORM.**

In the event an award nomination is submitted without the "*descriptive statement in support of the nomination*," the nomination may not be accepted.

# TYPES OF AWARDS

## **INDIVIDUAL DISTINGUISHED SERVICES**

MSSA recognizes an individual for outstanding service and leadership to MSSA.

- Individual has made an outstanding contribution to MSSA in a significant area (be specific).
- Individual has utilized personal skills and experience to achieve MSSA's mission of providing leadership to enhance the lives of Minnesotans by supporting diversity, impacting public policy, educating, and communicating among human service professionals.
- Individual has made special use of, or helped create, community resources to effect change.
- Individual participates in, promotes and is/has been recognized for their commitment to the field of Human Services.
- Describe the nature and length of the nominee's activity in MSSA.
- **Nominee is a current or past member of MSSA.**

## **OUTSTANDING STAFF ACHIEVEMENT**

MSSA recognizes individuals who routinely exemplify outstanding service to clients.

- Has consistently demonstrated outstanding service to clients.
- Routinely performs tasks at an excellent level.
- Has utilized personal skills and experience to help create a positive client focused work environment.
- Has made special use and/or helped to create community resources to effect change for clients.
- Participates in, promotes, and is/has been recognized for commitment to the field of Human Services.
- Is valued by agency or co-workers for contribution to the work team.
- **Is a current member of MSSA.**

## **OUTSTANDING STUDENT**

MSSA recognizes students who routinely exemplify outstanding academia.

- Holds a 3.0 or greater GPA.
- Routinely performs at an excellent level.
- Demonstrates an outstanding ability to work in the human service field.
- Participates in, promotes, and is/has been recognized for commitment to the field of Human Services.
- Is valued by peers and advisors.

## **COMMUNITY COLLABORATION**

MSSA recognizes a community which collaborates in a meaningful way to provide a set of services to a client population(s).

- Agencies and the community-at-large have demonstrated a high degree of collaboration, marked by cooperation, on the activities which led to the delivery of the service.
- The service delivered has met a high need area of a broad social service(s).
- The activity has demonstrated a long-term solution to a problem, not just a "band-aid" to a major issue.
- Community has shown innovation in how it has worked together on the solution and how it has used its resources most efficiently as well as effectively.
- Community has exhibited a partnership as being part of the community not just several agencies. The community itself has been a major part of the solution.

## **VOLUNTEER SERVICE**

MSSA recognizes outstanding service in the area of Volunteer Service. Nominees for this award must be volunteers (not paid staff) whose involvement evidences a significant contribution to clients, agency, and community.

- Volunteer has evidenced outstanding results through direct service to clients and agency.
- Volunteer has demonstrated use of personal skills and experience to contribute to community service.
- Volunteer has made unique use of, or helped to create, community resources to effect change (i.e., people, programs, groups, media).
- Volunteer has shown evidence of sustained commitment to the field of Volunteer Services (i.e., length of service, intensity of service).

## **CHILD FOSTER CARE**

MSSA recognizes outstanding foster care provided to children. Nominees for this award should demonstrate an outstanding effort of providing a stable and supportive environment which allows for children's growth and development.

- Describe how the foster care providers are unique and what sets them apart from other providers.
- Ability to work with the agency, family member, and resources in the community.
- Participation in community projects and activities promoting foster care.
- Understanding and recognizing the needs of those placed in their home—to be accepted and respected as an individual; to be treated with dignity; to be valued for the contribution they can make.
- Ability to meet the child's needs for care and support while encouraging growth.
- Evidence of deep commitment to foster care programs as shown by the length of service, intensity of client service, and dedication.
- Should show evidence of the provider's ability to prepare the child for reunification in the home or other community placement.

## **ADULT FOSTER CARE**

MSSA recognizes foster care provided to adults. Nominees should demonstrate an outstanding effort of providing a stable and supportive environment which allows for client growth.

- Describe how the foster care providers are unique and what sets them apart from other providers.
- Ability to work with the agency, family members and resources in the community.
- Participation in community projects and activities promoting foster care.
- Understanding and recognizing the needs of those placed in their home—to be accepted and respected as an individual; to be treated with dignity; to be valued for the contribution they can make.
- Ability to meet clients needs for care and support while encouraging growth.
- Evidence of deep commitment to foster care programs shown by length of service, intensity of client service, and dedication.

## **SPECIAL NEEDS FOSTER CARE**

MSSA recognizes outstanding foster care provided to special needs children (physically or developmentally disabled, EBD, learning disabilities and/or mental health issues, etc.). Nominees for this award should demonstrate an outstanding effort of providing a stable and supportive environment which allows for children's growth and development.

- Describe how the foster care providers are unique and what sets them apart from other providers.
- Ability to work with the agency, family member, and resources in the community.
- Participation in community projects and activities promoting foster care.
- Understanding and recognizing the needs of those placed in their home—to be accepted and respected as an individual; to be treated with dignity; to be valued for the contribution they can make.
- Ability to meet the child's needs for care and support with encouraging growth.
- Evidence of deep commitment to foster care programs as shown by length of service, intensity of client service and dedication.
- Should show evidence of the provider's ability to prepare the children for reunification in the home or other community placement.

## **KINSHIP CARE PROVIDER**

MSSA recognizes outstanding kinship care provided to children or adults. Nominees for this award should demonstrate an outstanding effort of providing a stable and supportive environment which allows for growth and development.

- Describe how the kinship care providers are unique and what sets them apart from other providers.
- Ability to work with the agency, family member, and resources in the community.
- Participation in community projects and activities promoting care.
- Understanding and recognizing the needs of those placed in their home—to be accepted and respected as an individual; to be treated with dignity; to be valued for the contribution they can make.
- Ability to meet the needs for care and support with encouraging growth.
- Evidence of deep commitment to kinship care.