

Call for Minnesota Public Health Impact Awards Selection Committee Members

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) is excited to announce the MN Public Health Impact Awards, recognizing individuals and organizations that have made meaningful contributions to public health in Minnesota. These awards were formerly known as the Community Health Awards.

We are seeking members to serve on a MN Public Health Impact Awards Selection Committee to review nominations and select award recipients. Awards will be presented at events in the Fall of 2026.

About the Awards

- **Jim Parker Leadership Award**: This award recognizes persons or groups who have demonstrated significant statewide leadership in public health.
- **Jack Korlath Partnership Award**: This award recognizes individuals whose work has strengthened the state-local partnership.
- **Commissioner's Award for Distinguished Service in Community Health Services**: This award recognizes individuals or groups who have contributed to advancement in the field of public health.
- **Award for Outstanding Dedication to Local Public Health**: This award recognizes individuals who have made a significant contribution to the promotion and implementation of local public health in Minnesota.

Note: [The Lou Fuller Award for Distinguished Service in Eliminating Health Disparities](#) will also be open this year, but the selection of the recipient will be the responsibility of a different selection committee. This award recognizes individuals or groups who have made a significant contribution to the elimination of health disparities in Minnesota.

About the Selection Committee

The Selection Committee will play a key role in ensuring a fair, transparent, and inclusive awards process. Committee members will review nominations using established criteria and work collaboratively to select award recipients.

Committee Composition

The Committee will include 7-9 members from diverse geographic regions and backgrounds, with representation from:

- Local public health representatives
- Elected community health board member

- Minnesota Department of Health staff

Who Should Apply

We encourage individuals with experience or interest in public health, a commitment to the health of all Minnesotans, and knowledge of public health in Minnesota to apply. **Past recipients and individuals with long-term experience in Minnesota’s public health system are especially encouraged to apply.**

Time Commitment and Committee Expectations

Committee members will:

- Participate in 3 virtual meetings from May through November; most meetings will be no longer than 60 minutes.
- Review materials in advance of each meeting to provide constructive feedback (approximately 30–45 minutes per month).
- Review nominations independently in August; time commitment will depend on the number of nominations received.
- Keep all Committee communications, nominations and other related data confidential.
- Report any potential conflicts of interest as soon as they are aware they exist.

How to Apply

Complete a brief interest form by **Tuesday, March 31st**:

<https://forms.office.com/g/uL3V8tDHpW>

Questions?

Please Contact:

Melissa Michels

Assessment and Planning Planner | MDH Center for Public Health Practice

651-201-5712

melissa.michels@state.mn.us