

AWARDS TO INDIVIDUALS

UNSUNG HERO

The nominee has direct and personal lived experience of mental illness, and has worked in a leadership role in his/her community or beyond.

She/he is currently* a member in good standing of an OPDI member organization, and agrees in writing to be nominated.

This individual has never won any mental health/addictions related award at the provincial level or beyond.

Anyone may nominate except the nominee. The nominator will describe how this individual has shown initiative and excellence in any or all of the criteria listed on the 2016 Nomination Form for Individuals.

PEER OF THE YEAR

The nominee has direct and personal lived experience of mental illness, and has worked in a peer support role either as a paid worker or a volunteer.

She/he is currently* a member in good standing of a peer support group or organization that is not necessarily an OPDI member, but that holds similar values and principles. He/she agrees in writing to be nominated.

Anyone may nominate except the nominee. The nomination package will describe how this individual has shown initiative and excellence in any or all of the criteria listed on the 2016 Nomination Form for Individuals.

PAY IT FORWARD

This award, inspired by the example of Linda Chamberlain, will include a small cash amount. The nominee has publicly acknowledged having direct and personal lived experience of a mental illness and/or addiction. They have overcome significant challenges or barriers, including poverty (whether as a recipient of income supports, no income, or a member of the "working poor"). They have turned their life around, against the odds, and paid it forward by leveraging personal experience and history to advocate for change to systems or practices within Ontario. They have gone above and beyond any assigned role to help improve the lives of peers whether at the individual level or on behalf of people with lived experience as a whole. No organizational affiliation is necessary to be nominated in this category. Anyone may nominate except the nominee. The nomination package should describe how this person has shown initiative or excellence in any or all of the criteria on the 2016 Nomination Form for Individuals.

AWARDS TO ORGANIZATIONS

INNOVATORS

This category is open to any organization (including but NOT limited to OPDI members) that in the last 1 to 3 years has shown innovation in its service delivery to people with lived experience, no matter what the type of service may be.

The organization agrees to the nomination in writing on its letterhead and will send a representative to accept at the awards event.

Any individual or organization may nominate in this category, including volunteers or members of the nominated organization, but not directors or staff. The nomination package will describe how the organization has shown excellent community building efforts as described on the 2016 Nomination Form for Organizations.

COMMUNITY BUILDERS

This category is open to any mental health or social service organization (including but not limited to OPDI members), media organization, private or public corporation, or public figure that, in the last 1 to 3 years, has contributed the mental health and addictions system at the local, regional, provincial or national level.

The nominee agrees to the nomination in writing on its letterhead and will send a representative to accept at the awards event.

Any individual or organization may nominate in this category, including volunteers or members of the nominated organization, but not directors or staff. The nomination package will describe how the organization has shown excellent community building efforts as described on the 2016 Nomination Form for Organizations.

*NOTE: *Current refers to positions or memberships held since April 2015*

Current OPDI directors and staff, or members of their immediate families, are not eligible for nomination in any award category.

Nominators name and contact information is required with the package but the nominator may remain anonymous to public if they so choose.

OPDI will present three awards per year, chosen from among the categories submitted. We reserve the right to adjust the categories that individuals are submitted to if there is a better fit.