

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
2014 LIVE WELL SAN DIEGO
PUBLIC HEALTH CHAMPION AWARDS NOMINATION GUIDELINES**

Public Health Services' Mission:

"To promote health and improve quality of life by preventing disease, injury and disability and by protecting against, and responding to, health threats and disasters."

The County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) is proud to announce the 13th Annual *Live Well San Diego* Public Health Champion Awards. This honor recognizes extraordinary achievements, by an individual and organization, in areas of public health service that protect and promote the health of the local population. The awards were created to recognize the role of public/private collaboration in advancing optimal health and wellness in the county's diverse populations.

In addition to the individual and organization awards, a theme award is presented. This year's theme award will recognize achievements related to the 2014 National Public Health Week (NPHW) theme: **Public Health: Start Here! Today's public health professionals are helping individuals and communities navigate the changing world of public health.**

This year, the daily national themes focus on public health systems. They include the following:

- Day 1: Be Healthy from the Start
- Day 2: Don't Panic
- Day 3: Get Out Ahead
- Day 4: Eat Well
- Day 5: Be the Healthiest Nation in One Generation

Public Health: Start Here! National Public Health Week will run from April 7 – 13, 2014. The *Live Well San Diego* Public Health Champion awards will be presented on Friday April 11, 2014, to coincide with National Public Health Week. The event will take place at the County Administration Center located at 1600 Pacific Highway, San Diego, CA 92101, in Room 310. Award winners will be individually recognized and each recipient's name will be added to a permanent plaque located in the HHSA Health Services Complex lobby.

Live Well San Diego Public Health Champions Awards is a program of the County's *Live Well San Diego* initiative, a 10-year strategic plan that promotes healthy, safe, and thriving communities.

General Criteria for Nominees:

Candidates for the *Live Well San Diego* Public Health Champion Awards may be individuals (community leaders/representatives), or organizations (from the private sector or government) and must:

- Live and work in San Diego County
- Exemplify exceptional achievement, longstanding excellence, outstanding leadership, and have made contributions that have advanced the community's health
- Demonstrate achievements in protecting and promoting the health of the San Diego County population (minimum of 10 years).

Prior nominees, who were not award winners, are again eligible for nomination. Previous award winners are not eligible.

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Awards are given to candidates in the following four categories:*

1. *Live Well San Diego* Public Health Champion Award – Theme: “**Public Health: Start Here! Today’s public health professionals are helping individuals and communities navigate the changing world of public health**”
2. *Live Well San Diego* Public Health Champion Award - Individual
3. *Live Well San Diego* Public Health Champion Award – Organization
4. *Live Well San Diego* Public Health Champion Awards – Regional (one award given in each of the six HHS regions and Aging and Independence Services)

*Note: HHS employees are not eligible to receive the *Live Well San Diego* Public Health Champions Awards

Specific Award Criteria for Nominees:

All nominees/organizations are required to have a minimum of 10 years of experience in public health.

1. ***Live Well San Diego* Public Health Champion Award – Theme: “Public Health: Start Here! Today’s public health professionals are helping individuals and communities navigate the changing world of public health ”**
This award will honor an individual or organization that has demonstrated outstanding contributions in the area related to the theme of the annual National Public Health Week. The 2014 award winner should exemplify achievements in public health that have promoted prevention and good health and created a ripple effect throughout San Diego County communities.

The following award categories do not have to be related to the National Public Health Week theme.

2. ***Live Well San Diego* Public Health Champion Award – Individual**
This award honors an individual who has made outstanding contributions to the prevention of disease, or injury and/or the promotion of health, in the San Diego County community. Nominees may be professional/nonprofessional, community leaders, representatives, or volunteers for example: educators, health professionals (doctors, nurses etc), administrators, journalists, lawyers, or community organizers.
3. ***Live Well San Diego* Public Health Champion Award – Organization**
This award honors a community organization that has made outstanding contributions to the prevention of disease, or injury and/or the promotion of health, in the San Diego community. Nominees may be public, private or not-for-profit and represent education, social welfare, journalism, medicine, law, a community organization or other appropriate entity.
4. ***Live Well San Diego* Public Health Champion Awards - Regional**
Nominations are submitted by the Regional General Managers of the six HHS regions and Aging and Independence Services (AIS) on a specific Regional Nomination Form.
These awards acknowledge individuals or organizations that have made outstanding contributions to the prevention of disease, injury and/or the promotion of health in their targeted areas. These awards are restricted to individuals or organizations that have a working relationship with one of the six HHS regions and AIS. One winner from each region and AIS will be selected.

The nomination form and award criteria will be available December 30 ,2013 on the HHS Website at http://www.sdcountry.ca.gov/hhsa/programs/phs/chronic_disease_health_disparities/public_health_champion_awards.html or Go to “All Services A-Z” and look for “Public Health Champions.” Forms will also be available from Public Health Services by calling Joselyn Hall at 619-692-5692 or from regional HHS offices.

Thank you for your support in recognizing our local public health champions!