

**County of San Diego
Health and Human Services Agency
2025 *Live Well San Diego*
24th Annual Public Health Champion Awards
Nomination Criteria**



The County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) is proud to announce the 2025 *Live Well San Diego* 24th Annual Public Health Champion Awards. This event recognizes extraordinary achievements, by an individual and organization, in areas of public health service that promote and protect 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 diverse populations of San Diego County.

In addition to the theme award, an individual and organization awards are presented. This year's theme award will recognize achievements related to the 2025 National Public Health Week theme: **"It Starts Here."** Awardees embody the vision of *Live Well San Diego* and the County's strategic directions.

This year, National Public Health Week is April 7-13, 2025. The *Live Well San Diego* Public Health Champion Awards Ceremony is the County's annual signature event for [National Public Health Week](#). The Awards Ceremony is scheduled for **Friday, April 11, from 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm**, at the County Administration Center located at 1600 Pacific Highway, San Diego, CA 92101, in Room 310. Award recipients will be individually recognized and each recipient's name will be added to a permanent plaque. *Live Well San Diego* Public Health Champions Award Ceremony is a program of *Live Well San Diego*, a long-term vision for improving the health and wellness of all San Diegans.

General Criteria for Nominees

Candidates for the *Live Well San Diego* Public Health Champion Award may be individuals (community leaders or representatives), or organizations (from the private and/or government sectors). Candidates must fulfill the following qualifications:

- 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 recipients are not eligible ([click here](#) to view previous awardees).

Award Categories

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

1. *Live Well San Diego* Public Health Champion Award – Theme: **"It Starts Here."**
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 HHSA regions, Aging and Independence Services, and Medical Care Services)
5. *Live Well San Diego* Public Health Champion Award – HHSA Director's Award(s)

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

Specific Award Criteria for Nominees

All individual or organization nominees are required to have a minimum of 10 years of experience in public health.

1. Theme Award: "It Starts Here."

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 2025 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. Individual Award

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 communities. Nominees may be professional/non-professional, community leaders, representatives, or volunteers for example: educators, health professionals (e.g., doctors, nurses), administrators, journalists, lawyers, or community organizers.

3. Organization Award

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 communities. 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. Regions, AIS, and MCS Award

Nominations are submitted by the Director of the Office of Equitable Communities, which includes the six HHSA Regions; Director of Aging and Independence Services; and Director of Medical Care Services.

These awards acknowledge individuals or organizations that have made outstanding contributions to the prevention of disease, injury and/or the promotion of health. These awards are restricted to individuals or organizations that have a working relationship with one of the six HHSA regions, AIS, and MCS. One winner from each region/department will be selected.

5. Director's Award

The award(s) acknowledges individuals or organizations that have made outstanding contributions to the prevention of disease, injury and/or the promotion of health. The award(s) is restricted to individuals or organizations that have a working relationship with one of the departments and Regions in the Health and Human Services Agency.

The nomination form and award criteria are available on the HHSA Website. The link is as follows:

https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/hhsa/programs/phs/public_health_champion_awards.html.

The forms are also available from Public Health Services by contacting Dasha Dahdouh at 619-403-8809 or Dasha.Dahdouh@sdcounty.ca.gov and from regional HHSA offices.

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