



2026 MPHA Spring Awards Nominations

MPHA Awards Nominations

The Maine Public Health Association is currently accepting nominations for awards to be presented at our Spring Awards & Networking Event, which will be held on Thursday, June 4, 2026. The deadline for nominations is Friday, March 6th at 5pm.

The MPHA Spring Awards & Networking Event provides an opportunity for the public health community to come together to salute our partners, celebrate our accomplishments, reconnect with colleagues, and get energized for public health in 2026!

To view previous award winners, please visit:

<https://www.mainepublichealth.org/about/awards>. If you have any questions, please email us (info@mainepublichealth.org).

Nominations will be accepted for the following awards:

Public Health Program of Excellence Award

MPHA recognizes effective, efficient, evidence-based and creative public health programs that you know of in your community, district or throughout Maine. The goal of the Program of Excellence Award is to increase the visibility of public health initiatives in Maine, to promote adoption of effective public health programs, and to provide recognition to organizations involved in successful collaborative public health initiatives.

Ruth S. Shaper Memorial Award

The Ruth S. Shaper Memorial Award recognizes an individual who has made a significant contribution in the area of public health. The individual will have demonstrated a broad orientation to health promotion and disease prevention that extends beyond their specific profession or field of interest. For example, the individual may have made a meaningful impact in health legislation, health education, health policy development, or consumer advocacy at either the community or state level. Professional rank or status in an organization is not an important factor.

Phebe Conrey King Access to Healthcare Award

The Phebe Conrey King Access to Healthcare Award recognizes an individual or individuals who have made a significant contribution to improving access to healthcare in Maine. The individual(s) will have demonstrated leadership abilities in promoting increased access to healthcare by all Maine residents. They will have made a significant contribution toward meeting the needs of the uninsured and medically under-served. The nominee need not be a member of the Maine Public Health Association. Programs are not eligible as MPHA has previously established an award to recognize exemplary programs.

Pamela M.B. Studwell Tobacco Policy Award

The Pamela M.B. Studwell Tobacco Policy Award is given to an individual whose dedication, persistence, and passion for improving lives has significantly advanced best practice tobacco policies in Maine.

Public Health Policy Champion Award

This award recognizes a policymaker (either an elected or appointed government official at the municipal, state, or federal level) who has made a significant contribution to public health in Maine.

Public Health Journalism Award

This award recognizes a journalist who has made a significant contribution to public health in Maine.

Public Health Business Champion Award

This award recognizes an organization (for-profit or non-profit) for its leadership and commitment to integrating and promoting public health values into their practices.

Public Health Rising Star Award

This award recognizes a young professional (<40 years old) in Maine who has made a significant contribution to public health in Maine.

Unsung Hero Award

Public health is at its best when we don't realize it's serving us. This award is for those who work hard every day to protect a

* 1. What is your contact information?

Name

Email Address

Phone Number

Award Choices

* 1. Which award would you like to submit a nomination for? (Please select one award at a time.)

- ☐ Public Health Program of Excellence
- ☐ Ruth S. Shaper Memorial Award
- ☐ Phebe Conrey King Access to Health Care
- ☐ Pamela M.B. Studwell Tobacco Policy Award
- ☐ Public Health Policy Champion Award
- ☐ Public Health Journalism Award
- ☐ Public Health Business Champion Award
- ☐ Public Health Rising Star Award
- ☐ Unsung Hero Award
- ☐ None

Public Health Program of Excellence Award

MPHA recognizes effective, efficient, evidence-based and creative public health programs. The goal of the Program of Excellence Award is to increase the visibility of public health initiatives in Maine, to promote adoption of effective public health programs, and to provide recognition to organizations involved in successful collaborative public health initiatives.

1. Name of Program Being Nominated

2. Date Program Initiated

3. Program Contact Information:

**Program Contact
Person**

City/Town

Email Address

Phone Number

4. Brief description of the program and population(s) served by the program (500 words maximum):

5. Program rationale and goal(s) (250 words maximum):

6. Brief description of program outcomes and accomplishments (500 words maximum):

7. Partner Organizations (if applicable)

8. Would you like to submit an additional award nomination?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Ruth S. Shaper Memorial Award

The Ruth S. Shaper Memorial Award recognizes an individual who has made a significant contribution in the area of public health. The individual will have demonstrated a broad orientation to health promotion and disease prevention that extends beyond their specific profession or field of interest. For example, the individual may have made a meaningful impact in health legislation, health education, health policy development, or consumer advocacy at either the community or state level. Professional rank or status in an organization is not an important factor. The nominee need not be a member of the Maine Public Health Association.

1. Nominee's Information

Name	<input type="text"/>
Organization	<input type="text"/>
Email Address	<input type="text"/>
Phone Number	<input type="text"/>

2. Describe the service that this individual has performed (500 words maximum):

3. Would you like to submit an additional award nomination?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Phebe Conrey King Access to Healthcare Award

The Phebe Conrey King Access to Healthcare Award recognizes an individual or individuals who have made a significant contribution to improving access to healthcare in Maine. The individual(s) will have demonstrated leadership abilities in promoting increased access to healthcare by all Maine residents. They will have made a significant contribution toward meeting the needs of the uninsured and medically underserved. Programs are ineligible for this award. Eligible recipients will have made a significant contribution to improving access to healthcare in Maine. Nominees will be judged on the following criteria:

- 1) Proven leadership abilities in promoting increased access to healthcare by Maine residents.**
- 2) Evidence that their efforts have led to the actual provision of healthcare services to the underserved.**
- 3) A deep commitment to the goal of healthcare access by Maine residents.**

1. Nominee's Contact Information

Name

Organization

Email Address

Phone Number

2. Please describe how the nominee's leadership abilities have increased access to healthcare by Maine residents (500 words maximum):

3. Please demonstrate evidence that the nominee's efforts have led to the actual provision of healthcare services to the underserved (250 words maximum):

4. Please describe the nominee's commitment to the goal of equitable healthcare access by Maine residents (500 words maximum):

5. Would you like to submit an additional award nomination?

☐ Yes

☐ No



Pam Studwell Tobacco Policy Award

The Pamela M.B. Studwell Tobacco Policy Award is given to an individual whose dedication, persistence, and passion for improving lives has significantly advanced best practice tobacco policies in Maine.

1. Nominee's Contact Information

Name

Organization

Email Address

Phone Number

2. Please describe how the nominee has significantly advanced best practice tobacco policies in Maine (500 words maximum):

3. Would you like to submit an additional award nomination?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Public Health Policy Champion Award

This award recognizes a policymaker (either an elected or appointed government official at the municipal, state, or federal level) who has made a significant contribution to public health in Maine.

1. Policymaker's Contact Information

Name

Company

Email Address

Phone Number

2. At which level of government does the nominee serve?

☐ Local

☐ Federal

☐ State

☐ Other (please specify)

3. Please describe how the nominee has made a significant contribution to public health in Maine (500 words maximum):

4. Would you like to submit an additional award nomination?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Public Health Journalism Award

This award recognizes a journalist who has made a significant contribution to public health in Maine.

1. Journalist's Contact Information

Name

Name of Publisher

Email Address

Phone Number

2. At which level of journalism does the nominee cover?

- ☐ Local/County ☐ National
- ☐ State
- ☐ Other (please specify)

3. Please describe how the nominee has made a significant contribution to public health in Maine (500 words maximum):

4. Would you like to submit an additional award nomination?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Public Health Business Champion Award

This award recognizes an organization (for-profit or non-profit) for its leadership and commitment to integrating and promoting public health values into their practices.

1. Business Information

**Name of Contact
Person**

Name of Business

City/Town

Email Address

Phone Number

2. Please describe how the business has demonstrated leadership and commitment to integrating and promoting public health values into its business practices (500 words maximum):

3. Would you like to submit an additional award nomination?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Rising Star Award

This award recognizes a young professional (<40 years old) in Maine who has made a significant contribution to public health in Maine.

1. Nominee's Contact Information

Name

Company

Email Address

Phone Number

2. Is the Nominee under 40 years old?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I don't know

3. Please describe how the nominee has made a significant contribution to public health in Maine (500 words maximum):

4. Would you like to submit an additional award nomination?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Unsung Hero Award

Public health is at its best when we don't realize it's serving us - this award is for those who work hard every day to protect and promote public health in whatever capacity is needed, and with a commitment to excellence. The new award recognizes an individual, department or organization who has positively influenced public health in Maine from behind the scenes.

1. Nominee's Contact Information

Name

Company

Email Address

Phone Number

2. Please describe how the nominee has positively influenced public health in Maine from behind the scenes (500 words maximum):

3. Would you like to submit an additional award nomination?

☐ Yes

☐ No



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Thank you for your nomination(s)!

Please be sure to click the DONE button below to submit your response(s).

If you have any questions, please reach out to info@mainepublichealth.org