

2026 Member Awards Nominations

The Awards Committee will review the submissions alongside a LeadingAge Michigan liaison to select winners and receive Board approval. LeadingAge Michigan will contact each nominator for those who are selected as an award winner and unselected nominees as well.

Each unselected nominee will receive a Certificate of Merit by mail in late Spring at the address provided to recognize their individual achievements.

The 2026 Annual Conference Awards Gala, scheduled for *April 28, 2026, in Battle Creek, MI*, will recognize all of the award recipients.

FAQ

1. *Do I have to work for a LeadingAge Michigan Member to make a nomination?*

No. Everyone is eligible to submit a nomination. The candidate, however, needs to work or volunteer for a LeadingAge Michigan member or in the case of a program, be nominated because of their benefit to an LMI Member.

2. *How many nominations can we submit per category?*

One per location, please. LeadingAge Michigan is seeking to amplify the voice of our members by giving state-wide recognition to each location's best of the best. Larger organizations with multiple sites may win multiple awards within a single category as long as the nominees are from different locations. Should multiple submissions in the same category be received from a given location, the Awards Committee will consider all the submissions and award up to one award per location per category.

3. *We're a housing member, can we apply?*

Yes, please do. All LeadingAge Michigan members including housing, home and community-based services, hospice, long-term care, business partners, etc. are welcome to nominate candidates in all categories.

4. *What is the submission timeline?*

Submissions are accepted through Survey Monkey through October 31, 2025.

5. *What will stand out to the Review Committee?*

Testimonials, concrete examples, and succinct messaging gives life to a nominee's story and captures the interest of the Awards Committee. Take the time to collect personal impact statements and include them in the nominee's story.

6. *How long can the nominee's story be?*

Up to 2,000 characters or two pages.

7. *Where can I learn about past winners and get some inspiration?*

Check out the playlists on our [YouTube channel @LeadingAgeMI](#) or read the past Gala programs online [here](#).

8. *What should go in the nominee's story?*

When telling the nominee's story, it is important to highlight why the nominee stands out and give a sense of identity to them as an individual, group, or program. Be sure to include testimonials, concrete examples, and quotes from those impacted by the nominee.

9. *Survey Monkey isn't working. What do I do?*

Don't panic. Technology is finicky sometimes and we get it. If there are any technical difficulties, please submit what you can through the online survey and contact Caitlin via [email](#). If you can't submit anything online, please send your nominee's story to Caitlin directly.

10. *Who is on the Review Committee?*

The Member Awards Committee is comprised of LeadingAge Michigan Members, including provider members and business partners. Additionally, any retiree from

an LMI member organization is welcome to participate.

11. How should the nominee's story be formatted?

Nominators have the option to copy and paste the nominee's story into Survey Monkey or upload a Word document. As such, the formatting depends on the submission style.

- Copy and Paste – Nominators may copy and paste or free-write the nominee's story into the nomination survey. They are encouraged to follow a list of potential interview topics and questions for each award. This method does NOT allow for much formatting or photos and is limited to 2,000 characters.
- Upload – An uploaded nominee's story must be submitted as a DOC, or DOCX and is limited to two pages and 16 MB. The nominee's story may include text and photos to tell the nominee's story. Elaborating on the potential interview topics and questions in the nomination packet is strongly encouraged. Each document must include the nominee's name, title, and award category.

12. Where do I submit a nomination?

Submissions are accepted through [Survey Monkey](#).

13. I have other questions. Who do I contact?

Please contact Caitlin Gregory via email at Caitlin@leadingagemi.org.