New Public Health Nurse of the Year Award: “Lillian Wald” Award

Background:

Lillian Wald is well known as the pioneer of public health nursing. Early in her nursing career, Wald made it her mission to improve the health of communities by getting nurses in homes and schools, and promoting social reform.

Purpose:

To recognize new public health nurses as they demonstrate the attributes and dedication necessary to develop the essential skills for a career path in public health nursing.

Criteria:

1. The recipient must meet the State of Wisconsin qualifications of a public health nurse and be employed at a staff level within a local health department or a tribal community health center.
2. The recipient must exhibit exemplary dedication to the practice of public health nursing during the first three years in the role.
3. The recipient must demonstrate values and skills consistent with established recommendations in the American Nurses Association Public Health Nursing Scope and Standards of Practice.
4. One award per year.

Excellence in Public Health Nursing: “Florence Nightingale” Award

Background:

Although well known for her history in acute care nursing, Florence Nightingale also had strong roots in public health nursing. Her early work using data and epidemiology to identify the cause of diseases led to some of the earliest population-level prevention and health promotion strategies. These same skills at the community and population levels are strongly needed by today’s public health nurses.

Purpose:

To recognize public health nursing leadership in achieving one or more objectives of Healthiest Wisconsin 2020 Health Priorities at either a community or systems level within their jurisdiction.

Criteria:

1. The recipient must meet the State of Wisconsin qualifications of a public health nurse and be employed and/or volunteering at a staff level within a local health department or tribal community health center.
2. The recipient’s practice must support one or more health priority objectives from Healthiest Wisconsin 2020, and have been done at a community or systems level within the jurisdiction of the agency.
3. There must be evidence of working in collaboration with community partner(s) to address the identified population health issue or need.
4. One award per year.
Educational Partnership Award: “Mary Adelaide Nutting” Award

Background:

Mary Adelaide Nutting was a leader in nursing education. She was instrumental in developing nursing school curricula, as well as establishing a means to support continuing education needs for professional nurses through the American Journal of Nursing.

Purpose:

To recognize exemplary community partnerships between practice members and educational entities at a local, regional or state level that advances public health nursing practice.

Criteria:

1. The award can be given to an individual or a partnership. Recipients can be a staff public health nurse; public health nurse supervisor or manager employed within a local health department or tribal community health center; a faculty member from an academic institution; and/or an employee of a community agency that directly supports public health workforce development.

2. The work of the recipient(s) must support the advancement of public/community health nursing practice.

3. One award per year; however, can be more than one recipient.

Distinguished Service in Public Health Nursing: Cornelia van Kooy Award

Background:

Cornelia van Kooy is known as the matriarch of public health nursing in Wisconsin. During her career she served on the State Board of Health and the Wisconsin Nurses Association, and provided training to public health nurses statewide. Van Kooy expanded the state's public health service model from individual care of the sick and poor to a broader health service for the entire community.

Purpose:

To recognize public health nurses' contributions to public health nursing practice within their agency, community, region, state, nation, or globally by providing leadership in professional organizations, demonstrating outstanding public health nursing performance or other accomplishments relating to population health.

Criteria:

1. The recipient must meet the State of Wisconsin qualifications of a public health nurse and work or volunteer within, or be retired from, a local or state health department, tribal community health center, or community health agency.

2. The contribution must support the advancement of population health.

3. One award per year.