ACMHA Announces Call for Nominations for National Awards

ACMHA: The College for Behavioral Health Leadership is currently accepting nominations for four awards recognizing outstanding contributions to the College and the behavioral health field. The award criteria are listed below. With the exception of the Walter Barton Award, the awards are open to both members and non-members.

The nomination deadline is February 8, 2013.
Completed forms may be submitted by email (executive.director@acmha.org) or fax (505-822-5068). The awards are presented at the 2013 ACMHA Summit, April 3 – 5, in Tampa, FL.

Timothy J. Coakley Behavioral Health Leadership Award
The Timothy J. Coakley Behavioral Health Leadership Award honors consumers, family members, and persons in recovery who have demonstrated leadership in advancing the role of consumers and family members in the behavioral health field. An outstanding leader, advocate, program innovator, and visionary, Tim Coakley pioneered alternatives to psychiatric hospitalization for adolescents, initiated award-winning services for homeless families, and cultivated a broad range of psychosocial services for people with serious mental illnesses.

Award Criteria:
- Open to ACMHA members and non-members.
- An individual who is a consumer of mental health and/or addiction recovery services, a family member, or a person in recovery.
- Demonstrated leadership in advancing the role of consumers, families, and persons in recovery in the field, such as through the development of innovative services that support recovery.

Recipients have included Gina Calhoun, Paolo del Vecchio, MSW; Judi Chamberlain; Joseph Rogers; Edward L. Knight, PhD, CPRP; and the Consumer Action Network of Washington DC, represented by Effie Smith.

The King Davis Award for Emerging Leadership in Promoting Diversity and Reducing Disparities
The King Davis Award is given to recognize emerging leaders who have made significant contributions in promoting diversity or reducing disparities through their work in the areas of behavioral health services, research, advocacy, or policy. Established in 2009, the award is made in honor of Dr. King Davis, the Robert Lee Sutherland Chair in Mental Health and Social Policy at the University of Texas at Austin and former ACMHA board member, for his exceptional contributions to the field.

Award Criteria:
- Open to ACMHA members and non-members.
- An individual who is early or mid-career and who has demonstrated leadership in the behavioral health field.
- Demonstrated contributions to improving quality of care or access to care for populations of color at the local, state, or national level.

Honorees have been Henry Acosta, MA, MSW, LSW; Trina Dutta, MPP, MPH; Delia Olufokunbi Sam, PhD, and Kana Enomoto, MA.
**Barton Distinguished Fellow Award**
The Walter Barton Distinguished Fellow award honors an ACMHA member who has made outstanding, sustained contributions to the leadership of the College and to the field of behavioral health leadership and policy. The award is made in honor of Dr. Walter Barton, long-time medical director of the American Psychiatric Association and ACMHA co-founder.

Award criteria:
- Open to current, emeritus, and former members of ACMHA.
- Contributions to ACMHA through service over 5 or more years in leadership positions in the College, such as membership on the ACMHA board, chair of the Summit, or other significant committees.
- Sustained involvement in the projects and programs of the College though such activities as membership on committees, presentations at Summit, recruitment of new members, and writings distributed to the College membership.
- Sustained, outstanding contributions to the field of behavioral health leadership that support the mission and aims of the College.

Past winners include Gail Stuart, PhD, RN, FAAN; Richard H. Dougherty, PhD; Colette Croze, MSW; Sandy Forquer, PhD; HG Whittington, MD; Eric Goplerud, PhD; Jeffrey Geller, MD, MPH; Stephen M. Soreff, MD; William S. James, MD; Robert Browne, MD; Pamela Hyde, JD; Lisa Teems, DMin, LCSW; Bruce Bronzan and Afshin Khosravi, Trilogy Integrated Resources; and Mike Hogan, PhD.

**Saul Feldman Award for Lifetime Achievement**
The Saul Feldman Award for Lifetime Achievement honors the sustained, significant contributions of an individual to leadership and policy in the mental health and addictions recovery field. The award is open to ACMHA members and non-members. The award is given in honor of Saul Feldman, DPA, CEO Emeritus of United Behavioral Health, and former president and co-founder of the College.

Award criteria:
- Open to ACMHA members and non-members.
- At least 15 years in key leadership and policy positions in the behavioral health field.
- Significant contributions to the literature and knowledge base on behavioral health leadership and policy.
- Role as a leader in the public or private sector at the national, regional, or state level, either as an executive in an agency providing mental health and addictions services and/or as an officer or committee chairperson in professional organizations related to mental health and addictions.
- Track record of significant contributions to new or improved behavioral health organizations or system development.
- Contributions made at the federal/national or state level that advanced the mental health and addictions field.

Past winners include David Evans, David C. Lewis, MD; Rosalynn Carter; King Davis, PhD; HG Whittington, MD; Ronald Manderscheid, PhD; Mary Jane England, MD; Areta Crowell, PhD; John Morris, MSW; and Herb Pardes, MD.