



The Colorado Health Foundation™

Dr. Virgilio Licona Community Health Leadership Award Program Criteria and Nomination Application Requirements

Background on Award Program:

The Dr. Virgilio Licona Community Health Leadership Award is [now open for nominations](#) through Thursday, April 25. This award recognizes impassioned Coloradans who are finding innovative and effective strategies to overcoming community health barriers across the state.

A nationally recognized advocate for social justice and the health of high-need populations, Dr. Licona contributed to the health of Coloradans as a physician and expert in rural health care delivery and migrant health. His role as a leader in communities brought a critical voice to some of the most important conversations and decisions related to how we can bring health in reach for all Coloradans.

The award program is designed to:

- Advance innovative, proven and replicable solutions to critical health issues in Colorado communities
- Recognize community health leadership and the power of community-based leadership in driving positive health outcomes
- Recognize and acknowledge impactful efforts affecting social justice and improvement in the health delivery of communities with the greatest needs
- Inspire others to strive toward Dr. Licona's standard of excellence and to acknowledge those whose work embodies his spirit of care, compassion, activism and dedication

A strong nomination application will exhibit the following characteristics:

- Builds bridges among people with differing backgrounds or viewpoints
- Achieves positive change in their community
- Contributes to better public policies and practices in the field
- Represents a community-based organization from any field (e.g., education, health, public safety, housing, economic development, environment, etc.) that shows evidence of improving health outcomes in their community
- Creates a positive impact in the delivery of rural health and migrant health and/or overall health of minority communities

Nominees must meet the following criteria:

- Nominee must be a Colorado resident
- Nominee must be making a positive impact within Colorado communities
- Nominee must have influenced or made a significant contribution to community health and/or public policy in Colorado that advances the Foundation's mission of improving the health of Coloradans

Nominations must comply with the following eligibility requirements:

- Nominations are open to the public
- Each nominator is allowed one nomination
- Potential candidates may be nominated by more than one person
- No self-nominations will be considered
- No Foundation Board member, Board committee community member, staff or their immediate family members will be considered
- No posthumous nominations will be considered
- No standing elected officials will be considered

Nomination Schedule and Selection Process:

Award nominations are open to the public and will be accepted for consideration until **Thursday, April 25**. The nominator will receive a confirmation of their submission via email.

After the close of nominations, the review/selection process will occur at the Foundation's June Board Retreat. Final decisions will be made by the Foundation's Board of Directors.

The awardee will be notified after the Foundation's June Board Retreat. The awardee will be announced at the Colorado Health Symposium in late July.

The award recipient will have the opportunity to attend the full three-day Symposium free of charge, lodging and meals included, and also be offered the opportunity to designate a one-time \$20,000 donation to support his or her work or that of a nonprofit working to improve the health of Coloradans.*

Nomination Requirements:

- Nomination application meets the eligibility requirements
- Nomination application addresses key questions about the nominee's role in community health leadership and includes a brief biography

Previous Awardees:

[2016 – Dr. Virgilio Licona](#)

[2017 – Sundari Kraft](#)

[2018 – Liza Marron](#)

**The award donation funds may be distributed to the winner's Colorado-based charity of choice, but "shall be used for such charities that do not enjoy substantial support through taxation." As a result, the Colorado Health Foundation may only make a grant to a publicly-funded organization if the grant supports a specific project that does not receive most of its funding from public dollars.*