

OPDI Lighthouse Awards 2021 Nomination Form

Individual Award

Please PRINT all information legibly and submit by August 20th, 2021!

1. Nominee Information

Please ensure that the nominee is aware of your intention to nominate them and reviews and signs this nomination. In respect for their privacy, we want to ensure they agree and consent to the collection and sharing of the nomination package, including supplementary letters of support, with the OPDI Awards Selection Committee.

Nominee Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____ Postal Code _____

City: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

Telephone Number: (____) _____ Alternate Number: (____) _____

- I am aware of this nomination and approve the nominator collecting the documentation required to support it.
- I understand that, if selected to receive this award:
 - I will be invited to accept the award on October 4th during a virtual award ceremony.
 - I will be asked to approve a draft of the information that will be presented about me at the event and during associated public communications.

Nominee Signature (required) _____

Note: to respect the nominee's privacy, applications will not be read or considered unless all boxes above are checked and the nominee signs this form.

2. Nominee Affiliation (required for the Peer of the Year and Unsung Hero Awards; not mandatory for the Pay It Forward Award)

Organization Name: _____

This organization/program/initiative is an OPDI member

Nominee's Role: Management Staff Volunteer Member Other _____

Please have one of the staff of the organization provide the following information and confirm the nominee's association with the organization. Note, no affiliation is required for the Pay It Forward Award.

Staff Name: _____

Staff Role: _____

Staff E-Mail: _____

Staff Telephone Number: (____) _____

I confirm that the nominee is a member in good standing of this organization

Signature of Staff: _____

3. Nominator Information

Nominator Name: _____

Organization: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Nominator Signature: _____

4. Nomination (please choose only one category):

Peer of the Year:

Our Peer of the Year Award goes to a peer worker who stands out for their dedication to improving mental health and addictions support. Through their compassionate and lived experience-informed work, the Peer of the Year uplifts members of their community, improves service delivery and amplifies the consumer voice. Their work may include creating/leading new peer support programs, advocating against mental health and addictions stigma and discrimination, or working to transform existing practices with an organization. The Peer of the Year is a leader in the community they serve (be this geographical, organizational, identity-based, etc.) and an inspiration to other peers.

Criteria for Nomination:

1. The individual is currently a member in good standing of an OPDI member organization or is an individual member.
2. The nominee must agree to the nomination in writing and, if successful, is invited to accept the award at the online awards ceremony.
3. Anyone may nominate except the nominee.

Criteria – please check all that apply

- Member, volunteer, staff, or manager in good standing of an OPDI member organization
- Amplifies the voices of people with lived experience
- Creates/leads new peer programs
- Advocates against mental health and addictions stigma and discrimination
- Works to transform existing practices
- Leader in their community

Unsung Hero:

Our Unsung Hero Award goes to an individual who through their tireless commitment and work has shown excellence in their service and support around mental health and addictions. Often, these are members of organizations or communities who work hard to encourage and amplify other voices, shine a spotlight on the work of others and do behind-the-scenes work to keep peer support services running and peer support communities strong. While they may not be at the front and center of an organization, their work has an enormous impact on the community and people served. This award is specifically

intended for someone who has not been recognized for their work in mental health and addictions before.

Criteria for Nomination:

1. The individual is currently a member in good standing of an OPDI member organization or is an individual member.
2. The nominee must agree to the nomination in writing and, if successful, is invited to accept the award at the online awards ceremony.
3. Anyone may nominate except the nominee.
4. The nominee has never won any mental health and addictions-related award at the provincial or national level.

Criteria – please check all that apply

- Member, volunteer, staff, or manager in good standing of an OPDI member organization
- Has never won any mental health/addictions-related awards at the provincial level or beyond
- Tireless commitment to supporting people with mental health and addictions
- Shines the spotlight on the work of others
- Engages in significant behind-the-scenes/underrecognized work to keep peer services running and peer communities strong
- Enormous impact on their community and people serviced

Pay It Forward (No organization affiliation is needed to be nominated in this category):

The Pay It Forward award is inspired by influential mental health champion Linda Chamberlain. Like Linda, the nominee for this award will have experienced significant challenges in life and used their experience to advocate for change.

“Paying it forward” in the context of mental health could mean using one’s own experience of discrimination in the health system to lobby for the improved conditions and treatment of future users. It could mean advocating for more affordable housing and improved shelter conditions for others after experiencing homelessness. Whatever the context, the nominee has mobilized their experience to create something better for others, shows compassion to their peers and inspires future generations to pay it forward too. They are an embodiment of hope for the future, and an inspiration for the next thirty years.

Criteria for Nomination:

1. No organization affiliation is needed to be nominated in this category.
2. The nominee must agree to the nomination in writing and, if successful, is invited to accept the award at the online awards ceremony.
3. Anyone may nominate except the nominee.

Criteria – please check all that apply

- Has faced significant challenges in life
- Pays it forward through service, community organizing, and/or advocacy (above and beyond any assigned or paid role) to peers in mental health/addictions

5. Why do you think your nominee is deserving of this award?

Please attach a description of the nominee’s activities or efforts relevant to this application, along with any supporting information. Your description should capture each of the activities you have checked above. Please do not send the nominee’s entire resume or CV. Please ensure that the nominee consents to your intention to nominate before you collect this information, and that the nominee signs the nomination form.

6. Letters of Support

Please provide at least 2 letters of support with the application to support the nomination. At least 1 of these references should be from someone with personal lived experience benefiting from the work of the nominee and include their contact information.

Please send the nomination form and accompanying documentation **by August 20th, 2021** to:

E-mail: opdi@opdi.org

Fax: 1-866-441-2741

Nomination Checklist

Completed applications will include the following:

- Nominee information and signature
- Nominee affiliation – if applicable
- Nominator information and signature
- Indication of award criteria met
- Description of nominee’s activities and reasons for deserving the award
- Letter of support #1
- Letter of support #2

Incomplete applications or applications without the nominee’s signature will not be considered. The awarded nominee as well as their nominator will be notified by September 13, 2021.