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The  
Terrance Keenan  
Leadership  
Award  
in Health  
Philanthropy

GRANT  
MAKERS  
IN  
HEALTH

# The Terrance Keenan Leadership Award in Health Philanthropy

The Terrance Keenan Leadership Award honors outstanding individuals in the field of health philanthropy whose work is distinguished by leadership, innovation, and achievement.

Leadership entails the thoughtful and creative deployment of the resources available to grantmakers. It mines the freedom inherent in philanthropy to create improvements in daily lives and to make valuable contributions in the arenas of health care, wellness, and public policy.

Leadership provides the inspiration and momentum needed to address today's pressing health issues. It also provides vision and insight into the challenges of tomorrow.

Leadership also entails innovation. In the face of deeply rooted problems, leaders affirm, improvise, and take risks. More importantly, they surround others with the freedom, encouragement, and knowledge to create long-term solutions for their communities.

As the field of health philanthropy has burgeoned and has itself become more complex, it faces the future with a sober sense of the magnitude of the challenges to be met. Leaders on all levels are crucial to preserve and refine the integrity of the work of health philanthropy.

By example and instruction, Terrance Keenan (1924-2009) charged us with exercising the freedom to invest in leadership and develop new institutions and systems to confront major needs. He encouraged us to embrace both the freedom to fail and the freedom to persist. Finally, he challenged grantmakers to make "their self-concept as public trusts...the overriding article of their faith and the guiding force of their behavior." A generous and consummate craftsman of our trade, Terrance Keenan reminded us that "creativity...is a cultivated skill, attainable only through continuous effort."

This annual award – established in honor of his more than 40 years of service and contributions to the field – is intended to stimulate others to strive toward this same standard of excellence and acknowledge those whose work embodies his spirit of innovation, compassion, and dedication.

## The Award

First presented by Grantmakers In Health (GIH) in 1993, The Terrance Keenan Leadership Award pays tribute to the continuous effort of those in the field of health philanthropy. It recognizes and rewards grantmakers whose thoughtful use of philanthropic dollars has had an impact on human health, at any level. Award recipients' work should demonstrate responsiveness to the people in their communities, large or small, and particular responsiveness to those in the greatest need. It should also distinguish itself by creativity, risk-taking, and boldness toward forging permanent improvements in health. Achievements may be in any area that involves health, such as services, delivery systems, public policy, public participation, prevention, wellness, education, or communications. Results may be at the local, state, regional, national, or international level.

The Terrance Keenan Leadership Award carries a \$5,000 honorarium.

## To Be Eligible

The nominee must be, or have been within the last three years, an active grantmaker for at least five years with a U.S. grantmaking organization in the field of health, serving as a trustee, staff member, or donor. Grantmakers whose actions embody Terrance Keenan's philosophy can be at any stage in their careers. The award honors grantmakers whether they are in the midst of their service to the field or are at the end of their career.

Current GIH board members are not eligible for nomination.

## The Nomination Process

Any individual or organization may nominate a grantmaker to receive The Terrance Keenan Leadership Award. A complete nomination of an eligible candidate consists of the following:

- A biographical profile of the nominee, including a summary of the nominee's principal contributions to the field of health philanthropy and how the individual meets the specific criteria for this award. This may take the form of a letter that addresses eight key criteria (described later in this brochure) regarding the nominee's achievements and leadership qualities. The letter should not exceed five single-spaced, typed pages. The extent to which the letter makes a succinct case for the candidate is more important than the letter's length.
- Two individuals must second the nomination. They do not have to write separate letters of endorsement but have to be willing to be contacted by the selection committee, if necessary. One of these individuals must be from an entity other than the nominee's foundation.
- Complete contact information, including name, title, organization, address, telephone and fax numbers, and e-mail address for the nominee, nominator, and the two persons who seconded the nomination is required. For your convenience, a form for submitting this information is available on GIH's Web

site, [www.gih.org](http://www.gih.org); however, you are not required to use it. Members of the award committee may contact the persons listed for additional information about a candidate.

- No more than three attachments that illustrate the nominee's achievements, which may include articles authored by the nominee, publications produced under the nominee's leadership, and media articles. For attachments longer than 10 pages, eight copies should be submitted. Submit nomination packets to:

The Terrance Keenan Leadership  
Award Committee  
Grantmakers In Health  
1100 Connecticut Avenue, NW  
Suite 1200  
Washington, DC 20036

**Nominations must be received by  
September 11, 2009.**

# Award Criteria

## ***Grantmaking***

- What achievements distinguish this nominee's work?
- Describe how this individual has taken risks, shown innovation, and exhibited the flexibility and creativity needed to address the nation's most pressing health problems.
- Describe how this individual has contributed to the effectiveness of the foundation's grantees and enhanced their success.
- What makes this individual an outstanding grantmaker in the field of health? What are his or her significant contributions to the field?

## ***Leadership***

- How has this individual shown leadership and strategic vision within his or her foundation?
- How has this individual shown leadership and strategic vision within the broader field of health philanthropy?
- How has this individual shown leadership within the community he or she serves?
- Describe how this individual has fostered, mentored, or inspired those working in the field.

# The Selection Process

The recipient of the award is selected by a committee of up to seven grantmakers from GIH Funding Partner organizations. A member of the GIH board of directors chairs the committee, but does not have a vote. The committee will review all nominations and choose one winner. For those not chosen, nominators are welcome to resubmit in subsequent years. The award recipient and nominators will be notified of the committee's decision by December 11, 2009. The recipient will be expected to participate in the award presentation and speak to his or her colleagues about the challenges and benefits of bringing creativity and leadership to the work of health philanthropy. The award will be presented during the GIH Annual Meeting on Health Philanthropy, March 10-12, 2010, in Orlando, Florida.

The decisions of the selection committee are final and not subject to review by the GIH board, staff, or its Funding Partners. GIH reserves the right not to present the award.

# Previous Recipients

**1993 Terrance Keenan**

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

**1994 David Packard**

The David and Lucile Packard Foundation

**1995 Margaret E. Mahoney**

The Commonwealth Fund

**1996 Beverly Railey Walter**

Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation

**1997 David P. Ross**

Bank of America and Victor E. Speas Foundation

**1998 Mary K. Campuzano**

Kansas Health Foundation

**1999 John Murphy**

The Flinn Foundation

**2000** No award presented.

**2001 Irving B. Harris**

The Harris Foundation

**2002 Thomas G. David**

The California Wellness Foundation

**2003 Gloria R. Smith**

W.K. Kellogg Foundation

**2004 David A. Gould**

United Hospital Fund

**2005 Frank Karel**

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

**2006 Robert Eckardt**

The Cleveland Foundation

**2007 Mario Gutierrez**

The California Endowment

**2008 Terri Langston**

Public Welfare Foundation

**2009 Gary Yates**

The California Wellness Foundation

## Grantmakers In Health

Grantmakers In Health (GIH) is an educational organization, serving the trustees and staff of foundations and corporate giving programs, that is dedicated to helping grantmakers improve the health of all people. Through programs, publications, professional counsel, and other offerings, GIH works to foster communication and collaboration among grantmakers and others and to help build the grantmaking community's knowledge, skills, and effectiveness. GIH is a nationally recognized resource on and for health philanthropy, supported by more than 250 funders annually.

For more information on the award, visit [www.gih.org](http://www.gih.org); or call Kate Treanor at 202.452.8331.