



TOMÁS J. ARAGÓN, M.D., Dr.P.H.
Director and State Public Health Officer

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency California Department of Public Health



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor

To: California Health Professionals
Public Health Organizations
All CDPH and DHCS Stakeholder Groups
Community Organizations and Partners

Subject: Nomination Solicitation for the 2021 and 2022 Beverlee A. Myers Award for Excellence in Public Health

Public health workers from around the state have responded to a once-in-a-lifetime pandemic, and you continue to respond with great innovation and unbelievable dedication. What has been most impressive to me is the single-minded effort to reduce glaring disparities among so many communities in every county.

This year marks 152 years of public health in California, the second oldest state public health department in the nation. I am also moving into my second year as CDPH's Director and State Public Health Officer, and I am looking forward to presenting our highest public health award, the Beverlee A. Myers Award for Excellence in Public Health, to this year's recipients. This award recognizes the contributions of public health and health care services professionals in improving the health status of everyone who calls California home and the millions who visit each year.

The Beverlee A. Myers award is presented annually to an individual, **not currently working at CDPH**, who has exhibited outstanding leadership and accomplishments in public health in California.

Established in 1993 in honor of the late Beverlee A. Myers, this award reflects the leadership and dedication to all aspects of public health improvement exemplified throughout her 25-year career, including her service as director of the California Department of Health Services from 1978 to 1983.



Dr. Richard Pan, 2019 recipient of the Beverlee A. Myers Award for Excellence in Public Health

A selection committee, including the director, assistant director and chief deputy directors of CDPH, will review the nominations and select this year's recipient. The Beverlee A. Myers award will be presented to the public health professional that best embodies the following:

- Exemplifies dedication and accomplishment in improving the health status of Californians
- Demonstrates an ability to work collaboratively and provide leadership within the public health and health service delivery communities
- Uses creative methods to promote essential public health services
- Demonstrates sensitivity to addressing the needs of special populations and reducing disparities in health care and health outcomes





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We received wonderful nominations in 2020, just when Covid-19 response work took off, so we will be awarding one nominee from that cohort of nominees. We will also be honoring two new winners for 2021 and 2022 from your new nominations. If you nominate more than one person, each nominee requires a separate nomination letter. All nominations must be received by **Thursday, March 31, 2022, at 5:00 p.m.** In your nomination letter, please include the following information about the nominee:

- Name
- Phone numbers (work and mobile)
- Email address (work and personal)
- Mailing address
- Complete a thorough narrative of why you are nominating the individual
- A copy of your nominee's CV or resumé is NOT required, but can be helpful

You can submit nominations via email to [Michael Marks](#). If you have any questions or need additional information, you can call Michael at (916) 440-7147.

You can also submit a hard copy of your nomination(s) to:
Michael Marks
California Department of Public Health
Office of Communications
MS 0502, P.O. Box 997377
Sacramento, CA 95899-7377

Our three award recipients will be recognized and asked to speak at a special virtual awards ceremony scheduled for **Thursday, April 21, 2022** at 1:00 p.m.

We encourage you to take the time to recognize our colleagues for their outstanding public health accomplishments and achievements. Your consideration of this request is greatly appreciated.

A list of past recipients of the Beverlee A. Myers award follows.

Serving with you,

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Past Recipients of the Beverlee A. Myers Award for Excellence in Public Health

- 2019 Richard Pan, MD, California State Senator, 6th Senate district, practicing pediatrician, Senate Committee on Health Chair
- 2018 William Walker, MD, Health Officer for Contra Costa County and the Director of Contra Costa Health Services
- 2017 Kelly Pfeifer, MD, Director, High-Value Care, California Health Care Foundation
- 2016 Wendel Brunner, MD, PhD, MPH, Director of Public Health for Contra Costa County
- 2015 Joshua Bamberger, MD, MPH, Chief Medical Consultant, Mercy Housing's Health and Housing
- 2014 Anthony Iton, MD, JD, MPH, Senior VP, Healthy Communities, The California Endowment
- 2013 Diana E. Ramos, MD, MPH, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
- 2012 Harold Goldstein, DrPH, founding Executive Director of the California Center for Public Health Advocacy
- 2011 Dr. Kenneth Kizer, former director of the California Department of Health Services, Director of UC Davis Health System's Institute for Population Health Improvement
- 2010 Shu-Hong Zhu, PhD, Professor of Family and Preventive Medicine, Principal Investigator for California Smokers' Helpline
- 2009 Mitchell H. Katz, MD, Director, San Francisco Department of Public Health
- 2008 Wendelin M. Slusser, MD, MS, FAAP, Co-director of the UCLA Community Health and Advocacy Training Program for Pediatric Residents
- 2007 Jonathan Fielding, MD, MPH, MA, MBA, Director, Department of Public Health and Health Officer, Los Angeles County
- 2006 Gary W. Erbeck, MPH, REHS, Director, San Diego County Department of Environmental Health
- 2005 Robert K. Ross, MD, President & CEO, The California Endowment
- 2003 Bernard S. Weintraub, MD, MPH, Secretary, US Public Health Foundation
Sarah Gomez Erlach, RN, BSN, MPH, Chief, DHS Primary Health Services Unit
- 2001 Milton Roemer, MD, World Health Organization
Ruth Roemer, JD, World Health Organization
- 2000 Claire Brindis, DrPH, Institute for Health Policy Studies, UC San Francisco