Each year, the Tennessee Hospital Association (THA) conducts an awards program to recognize individuals and organizations whose service have significantly contributed to the goals of the association or one or more of its institutional members. Nominations for awards are evaluated by anonymous panels composed of THA members.

Six types of awards will be presented this year. Two new awards are the patient safety leadership award and the diversity champion award.

- Distinguished Service
- Meritorious Service
- Nurse of Distinction
- Patient Safety Leadership
- Diversity Champion
- Healthcare Hero

Presentations generally are made during the annual membership meeting, scheduled for October 30 - November 1, 2013, at Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center, Nashville. When there are a number of excellent nominees, awards also may be presented during the association’s summer conference or at other meetings.

Deadline for Nominations
May 24, 2013
Distinguished Service Award

This award is the highest award presented by the association. It recognizes leadership and service by an individual member to THA during his/her entire career, not for a single act or contribution. It also recognizes achievements and contributions to the healthcare industry. Nominees must be employed as a chief executive officer by an institutional member of the association for a minimum of 10 years, which must be documented in the nomination. Include activities and achievements at the nominee’s place of employment, professional organizations, community organizations and service to the association (participation on THA committees, councils, etc.).

Submit by mail:
- A detailed narrative (2-5 pages) citing contributions, achievements, honors, etc., to THA, his/her institution and health care in Tennessee.
- A current curriculum vitae or narrative biography of the nominee.
- Five (5) letters in support of the nomination, two of which must be from individuals not employed by or directly associated with the nominee’s employer. One letter must be from the institution’s board chairman.
- A photograph of the nominee suitable for reproduction.

Healthcare Hero Award

This award recognizes an individual for an exceptional heroic event(s) that goes above and beyond their normal duties while working at a THA member hospital, health system or home health agency. Individuals eligible to be nominated for this award include board members, physicians, volunteers and any full-time employee that works at a THA member hospital, health system, or home health agency.

Submit by mail:
- A detailed narrative (2-5 pages) describing why the nominee deserves recognition, including why he/she should be considered a healthcare hero; and description and details about his/her heroic experience(s). Individuals should be nominated for an exceptional heroic event(s) that goes above and beyond their normal duties. Years and hours of service should not be the reason a person is nominated in this category.
- A current curriculum vitae or narrative biography of the nominee.
- At least three (3), but not more than five (5), letters supporting the nomination. One letter must be from the institution’s chief executive officer.
- A photograph suitable for reproduction.
These awards recognize leadership and service by individuals in support of THA member hospitals, health systems and home health agencies. The award is presented in six categories: chief executive officer, senior executive, department head, board member, medical staff and volunteer.

Nominees must be employed by a THA member hospital, health system or home health agency for a minimum of five years. These awards recognize individual contributions to the work of member institutions of THA, the association itself, or service to personal membership organizations allied or affiliated with the association.

A. Chief Executive Officer
Nominees must be employed as the chief executive officer (administrator, president, executive director, etc.) by a THA member institution for a minimum of eight years (does not need to be at the same institution). One of the letters supporting the nomination should be from the chairman of the board of the member institution.

B. Senior Executive
Nominees must be employed as a senior executive (chief operating officer, assistant or associate administrator, vice president, etc.) by a THA member institution for a minimum of five years (does not need to be at the same institution). One of the letters supporting the nomination should be from the institution’s chief executive officer.

C. Department Head
Nominees must be employed as a department head by a THA member institution for a minimum of five years (does not need to be at the same institution). One of the letters supporting the nomination should be from the institution’s chief executive officer.

D. Board Member
Nominees must be active (or recently retired) members of the board of directors or associate/advisory board of a THA member institution. They must have served as hospital or health system trustees for a minimum of five years. One of the letters supporting the nomination should be from the institution’s chief executive officer, one from a board member colleague, and one from an officer or member of the medical staff.

E. Medical Staff
Nominees must be members of the medical staff of a THA member institution for a minimum of five years. At least one of the letters supporting the nomination should be from the institution’s chief executive officer.

F. Volunteer
Nominees must be individuals who currently are serving in a voluntary capacity with an organization associated with a THA member institution. One of the letters supporting the nomination should be from the institution’s chief executive officer and one from the person who manages or supervises volunteer activities for the member institution, e.g. director of volunteers.

For all Meritorious Service Award Categories, submit by mail:

- A detailed narrative (2-5 pages) describing why this individual deserves recognition, including contributions to the healthcare industry, employer, association, professional organizations and community.
- A current curriculum vitae or narrative biography of the nominee.
- At least three (3), but not more than five (5), letters supporting the nomination.
- A photograph suitable for reproduction.
Nurse of Distinction Awards--Executive & Clinical

These awards, in the categories of executive and clinical nursing, recognize outstanding contributions to nursing by registered nurses employed at a THA member hospital, health system or home health agency. Suggested areas of achievement to be recognized include: outstanding care, cost reduction initiatives, quality initiatives, innovative retention and recruitment proposals and leadership initiatives.

Nominees must be employed as by a THA member institution for a minimum of five years (does not need to be at the same institution). One of the letters supporting the nomination should be from the institution’s chief executive officer.

Submit by mail:
- A detailed narrative (2-5 pages) describing why the individual deserves recognition, including contributions to the healthcare industry, employer, association, professional organization and community.
- A current curriculum vitae or narrative biography of the nominee.
- At least three (3), but not more than five (5), letters supporting the nomination. One letter must be from the institution’s chief executive officer.
- A photograph suitable for reproduction.

Patient Safety Leadership Award—New Award Category!

This award recognizes an individual who has taken extraordinary and innovative steps to make patient safety and quality a top priority in their organization. It honors superior efforts in preventing adverse health events and measures improvement through the hospital’s participation in the Tennessee Center for Patient Safety collaboratives.

Nominees must be employed as by a THA member institution for a minimum of five years (does not need to be at the same institution). One of the letters supporting the nomination should be from the institution’s chief executive officer.

Submit by mail:
- A detailed narrative (2-5 pages) describing why this individual deserves recognition, including his or her patient safety and quality activities in the Tennessee Center for Patient Safety, contributions to the healthcare industry, employer, association, professional organizations and community.
- A current curriculum vitae or narrative biography of the nominee.
- At least three (3), but not more than five (5), letters supporting the nomination.
- A photograph suitable for reproduction.

Diversity Champion—New Award Category!

This award recognizes a leader who has made outstanding contributions in fostering leadership, workplace diversity and inclusion, and demonstrated his or her commitment to a diverse workforce. This individual also places an emphasis on culturally competent care and involvement in the diverse communities served by the organization.

Nominees must be employed by a THA member institution for a minimum of five years (does not need to be at the same institution). One of the letters supporting the nomination should be from the institution’s chief executive officer.

Submit by mail:
- A detailed narrative (2-5 pages) describing why this individual deserves special recognition, with an emphasis on his or her leadership in diversity activities at a THA member hospital or health system. Include information on efforts to encourage diversity in health care, attract and retain employees from diverse backgrounds, and create new diversity initiatives.
- A current curriculum vitae or narrative biography of the nominee.
- At least three (3), but not more than five (5), letters supporting the nomination.
- A photograph suitable for reproduction.
2013 THA Awards of Excellence Nomination Form

Tennessee Hospital Association
Communications and Marketing Department • 500 Interstate Blvd. South • Nashville, TN 37210-4634
Deadline: May 24, 2013

This form must be completely filled out, including the nominator’s signature, and submitted with the nomination book.

Please Check Award Category:

- Distinguished Service Award
- Meritorious Service Award
- Chief Executive Officer
- Senior Executive
- Department Head
- Board Member
- Medical Staff
- Volunteer
- Healthcare Hero Award
- Nurse of Distinction Award
- Executive
- Clinical
- Patient Safety Leadership Award—New!
- Diversity Champion—New!

Name of Nominee: ____________________________________________

Title: ________________________________________________________

Employer: ____________________________________________________

Employer Mailing Address: _____________________________________

City: ________________________ ST: _______ Zip: ___________ Phone: (______)__________

Name of person submitting nomination (must be a full-time employee of the hospital or health system):

Title: ________________________________________________________

Employer: ____________________________________________________

Employer Mailing Address: _____________________________________

City: ________________________ ST: _______ Zip: ___________ Phone: (______)__________

Email Address: ______________________________________________

In 2-3 sentences, describe the reason for this person’s nomination (do not just state “see attached”).

__________________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________

Signature of Nominator (required):

________________________________________________________________________ Date: __________

Please submit details supporting nomination as requested in the guidelines. Your signature indicates you have reviewed criteria for the nomination, reviewed the nomination for compliance with the guidelines and certify completeness of the nomination. Incomplete nominations will be disqualified. The judging panel reserves the right to move any nomination to another category.