



2017 Myrlie Evers-Williams Institute Rural Health Champion Award

National Rural Health Day

National Rural Health Day is an opportunity to “Celebrate the Power of Rural” by honoring the selfless, community-minded, “can do” spirit that prevails in rural America. Today more than ever, rural communities must address accessibility issues, a lack of healthcare providers, the needs of an aging population suffering from a greater number of chronic conditions, and larger percentages of uninsured and underinsured citizens. Rural community healthcare providers have both an opportunity and a challenge to provide innovative, affordable, and holistic primary care. Their work serves as a model for the rest of the country to follow, as we transition to wellness-based healthcare.

2017 Myrlie Evers-Williams Institute Rural Health Champion Award

The Myrlie Evers-Williams Institute for the Elimination of Health Disparities at the University of Mississippi Medical Center is committed to improving the health, healthcare, and healthcare delivery systems of rural Mississippi communities. As such, we admire individuals who share this commitment. Most often, this work goes unnoticed. In recognition of these individuals, our office will select one (1) Rural Health Champion from the state of Mississippi. This prestigious award will be given to an “unsung hero” who makes a notable contribution to health, healthcare, or a healthcare delivery system in a rural Mississippi community. **This year’s award is focused on significant contributions in the promotion of physical activity, in rural populations. Individuals who have made notable contributions in a rural Mississippi community regarding promoting physical activity are eligible for nomination.**

Significance of the Myrlie Evers-Williams Institute Rural Health Champion Award

This award is given in conjunction with National Rural Health Day, November 19, 2017 and Mississippi Rural Health Day, November 20, 2017. The significance of celebrating these dates is more than recognizing individuals for their commitment to excellence in a rural community’s health, healthcare, and health delivery systems. This award will also aid in building a bridge of goodwill for further working relationships in rural Mississippi communities with our institute’s

research/outreach pursuits. It also serves as an opportunity to increase our network with community-based organizations, during the selection process.

Selection Criteria

The Myrlie Evers-Williams Institute Rural Health Champion Award nominee criteria:

- Nominees must reside and work in a rural Mississippi community. Nominees may or may not live in the community, in which they serve.
- Nominees must be directly responsible for advancing the promotion of physical activity in the Mississippi rural population.
- Nominees should be responsible for advancing the health of a Mississippi rural population through at least 1 (one) of the following actions:
 - Organization of individuals, resources, and/or organizations to promote physical activity in a rural Mississippi community.
 - Development of new services, interventions, and/or supports mechanisms related to promoting physical activity that improve the health of a rural Mississippi community.
 - Increased the level of awareness of the need for physical activity in a rural Mississippi community.
 - Demonstrated innovation and excellence in addressing physical activity of a rural Mississippi community.
- Previous award winners (2013-2016) are not eligible to be nominated.
- It is **not** required that the recipient is a licensed health care professional.
- A community leader, supervisor, an individual familiar with the work of the nominee, or self-nominations are acceptable forms of nominations for the potential Myrlie Evers-Williams Institute Rural Health Champion Award recipient.
- The attached nomination form or electronic nomination form must be submitted to Myrlie Evers-Williams Institute office no later than close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **October 10, 2017**.

Selection Process

A selection committee comprised of individuals representing the Myrlie Evers-Williams Institute, as well as other community-based organizations throughout Mississippi will review all application.

Award Presentation

The award winner will be presented with a plaque, by a Myrlie Evers-Williams Institute representative in the community in which the recipient lives. The award will be presented on Mississippi Rural Health Day, or at a time mutually agreed upon by the award winner and the Evers-Williams Institute. Additionally, the Myrlie Evers-Williams Institute representative will take a photo with the award winner, which will be displayed in the Institute. The award will be announced in the recipient's local newspaper, local news media (i.e. print, radio, television), and the University of Mississippi Medical Center's news and media outlets.

Important Dates

- **August 9, 2017**
 - Call for nominations opens
- **October 10, 2017**
 - Nominations due to Myrlie Evers-Williams Institute office, by close of business
- **October 30, 2017:**
 - Award winner will be notified by a Myrlie Evers-Williams Institute representative
- **November 20, 2017**
 - Award presented to recipient in the community in which he or she lives or serves

For more information, please contact:

Erica Collins-Young, MSL
Project Manager
Myrlie Evers- Williams Institute
The University of Mississippi Medical Center
Phone: 601-815-9016
Email: ecollinsyoung@umc.edu



Myrlie Evers-Williams Institute Rural Health Champion Award Nomination Form

Each year, the Myrlie Evers-Williams Institute for the Elimination of Health Disparities at the University of Mississippi Medical Center selects (1) recipient for the **Myrlie Evers- Williams Institute Rural Health Champion Award**. Please complete this form or the electronic nomination form [here](#) or <https://redcap.umc.edu/surveys/?s=88EP4LCM4R>, with your nomination. Mail, fax, or email this form no later than **October 10, 2017**, to the attention of Erica Collins- Young at:

The University of Mississippi Medical Center
Myrlie Evers- Williams Institute
c/o Erica Collins-Young – Rural Health Champion Award
2500 North State Street
Jackson, Mississippi 39216
Fax: 601-815-9025
Email: ecollinsyoung@umc.edu

Nominee Information

Name: _____

Credentials: _____
(MD, RN, LSW, etc.)

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Birthdate: _____ Place of Birth: _____

Submitted By

Name: _____

Phone Number _____ Email Address: _____

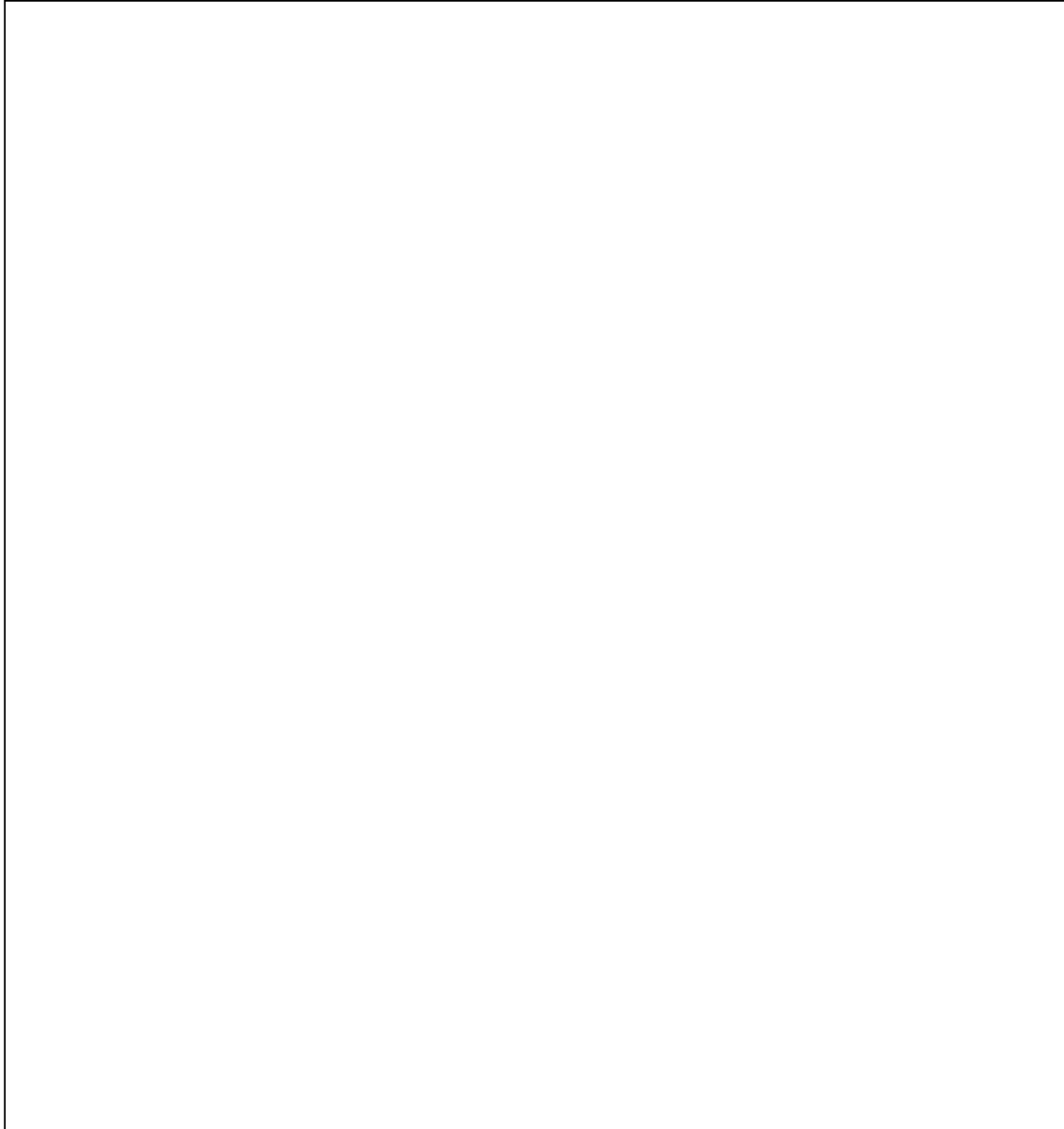
Relationship to Nominee: _____

Supporting Information

1. Please describe the community in which the nominee serves. (Town, City or County Description)

2. In no less than 50 words and no more than 250 words, please describe how the nominee is directly responsible for advancing the health of a Mississippi rural population through the promotion of physical activity.

***This is your opportunity to explain why he or she should receive this award. You may attach other pages if necessary.*



The award will be presented on National Rural Health Day, MS Rural Health Day or at a time mutually agreed upon by the award winner and the Myrlie Evers-Williams Institute in the community in which the recipient lives.