



2019 Community Health Aide Program

Shining Star Awards

Shining Star History

The Shining Star awards started in 2006 as a way for CHAP Directors and others to recognize the excellent contribution and commitment of Community Health Aides/Practitioners of Alaska. Mary Margaret Brower from Kaktovik was the first award recipient. The CHAP Directors now have four award categories and CHA/Ps are recognized in memoriam throughout the year.

Rising Star Nominees

▶ Jovani Brown, CHA II

▶ Samantha Nicolai, CHA II

Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation

▶ Maryann Keith, CHP

Norton Sound Health Corporation

▶ Cara Lestenkof-Mandregan, CHA II

Southcentral Foundation

2019 Rising Star

Samantha Nicolai, CHA II

Akiak



Samantha Nicolai

- ▶ Samantha just completed Session II Training in Bethel.
- ▶ She does a fantastic job with patient care.
- ▶ Samantha takes initiative and has the “I can do this” and the “let’s do this” approach with her work in training, the village clinic, and community.

Outstanding Accomplishments Nominees

- ▶ Scammon Bay Team: Isiah Rivers, CHA II; Esther Tobeluk, CHP; Paula Simon, CHP; Lianna Kasayuli, CHA III, Marsha Smith, CHP
- ▶ Mountain Village Team: Cindy Lawrence, CHP; Deborah Johnson, CHP; Krysten Goetz, CHA II; Minne Alexie, CHA Trainee; Mary Okitkun, CHA I; Hazel Andrews, CHP
- ▶ Esther Tobeluk, CHP

Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation

2019 Outstanding Accomplishments Award

- ▶ Scammon Bay Team: Isiah Rivers, CHA II; Esther Tobeluk, CHP; Paula Simon, CHP; Lianna Kasayuli, CHA III; Marsha Smith, CHP
- ▶ In March, the Scammon Bay clinic experienced a series of traumatic events requiring all CHAs and CHPs to work intensely for several days.
- ▶ Infant resuscitation for multiple hours without success; resuscitation for 17 hours of an attempted suicide patient, saving the person's life; a baby in respiratory distress that could not be medivaced due to weather hold. One of the CHPs own babies was also in distress when she arrived home. Both babies were medivaced.

2019 Outstanding Accomplishments Award

- ▶ Mountain Village Team: Cindy Lawrence, CHP; Deborah Johnson, CHP; Krysten Goetz, CHA II; Minne Alexie, CHA Trainee; Mary Okitkun, CHA I; Hazel Andrews, CHP
- ▶ There was a terribly ill young patient in Mountain Village. The health aides did “manual decompression” on a patient to get patient to exhale by pressing on chest for 5 seconds at a time. The abdomen became distended; they added another person to press on abdomen to get the air out. They had 4-5 people working on patient at all times. They did this for 8 hours. Lifemed and PICU are impressed at the miracle they pulled off to save patient’s life.

North Star Nominees

- ▶ Moses Frederick, CHP
- ▶ Balassa Larson, CHP

Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation

2019 North Star

Moses Frederick, CHP

Akiachak



Moses Frederick

- ▶ Moses has spent 40 years of his life taking care of the village of Akiachak as a CHP.
- ▶ He is an exceptional role model due to his sobriety, hard work, humility, humor, respect and professional behavior.
- ▶ His mother, Pauline Frederick, was one of the first midwives in Akiachak. Helping others has been passed down by his mother and it shows in his work.

Shining Star Nominees

- ▶ Maina Adams, CHP
Yakutat Tlingit Tribe
- ▶ Adeline Gallen, CHP
North Slope Borough
- ▶ Crystal Gumlickpuk, CHP
- ▶ Rhonda Hurley, CHP
- ▶ Shawna Tunguing, CHA IV
Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation
- ▶ Chrystal Moon, CHP
Southcentral Foundation/Native Village
of Tyonek

Shining Stars Nominees continued

- ▶ Beverly Nakarak, CHA II

Norton Sound Health Corporation

- ▶ Gwendolyn Heckman, CHA III

- ▶ Jacob Isaac, CHP

- ▶ Rosemary John, CHP

- ▶ Oliane Kameronoff, CHP

- ▶ Melody Kruger, CHP

- ▶ Leonard Manchuak, CHA I

- ▶ April Mattson, CHP

- ▶ Annette Nick, CHA IV

Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation

2019 Shining Star

Shawna Tunguing, CHA IV

Koliganek



Shawna Tunguing

- ▶ Patient felt that Shawna provided the best care he's ever had. He added that the care he received was better than the usual care he receives in Anchorage.
- ▶ Dr. Purchiaroni is consistently impressed with her professionalism.

Setting Star

Ann Squartsoff

Kodiak Area Native Association

- ▶ Ann was known to her community of Port Lions as “McGuyver.”
- ▶ She started as a health-aide in 1995 and retired in December 2005.
- ▶ Ann passed away on August 5, 2018. She was 70 years old.

Setting Star

Elenore McMullen, CHP

Chugachmiut



- ▶ Eleanor passed away April 5, 2019 in Homer.
- ▶ Eleanor worked for more than 30 years caring for the residents of Port Graham.

Setting Star

Ruth Crow, Circle

Tanana Chiefs Conference

- ▶ Ruth worked as a full-time and itinerant health aide for over 20 years serving several villages throughout the interior.
- ▶ She served in leadership roles in her home community of Circle advocating for the well being of patients living in rural Alaska.

May we have a moment of
silence to remember loved
ones who we have lost in the
past year.

We would like to thank all
Community Health
Aides/Practitioners for
their hard work and
dedication.