

2019 CMS HEALTH EQUITY AWARD

CMS recognizes that all beneficiaries should be able to achieve their highest level in care and works to ensure that disparities in health care quality and access are eliminated. Starting in 2018, CMS began recognizing organizations demonstrating a similar commitment to health equity by reducing disparities among the CMS beneficiaries they serve, particularly among racial and ethnic minorities, individuals with disabilities, sexual and gender minorities, and those living in rural areas. The 2019 CMS Health Equity Award will shine a light on an organization leading the way on the path to equity, showing others how to reduce disparities and close gaps in health quality, access, and outcomes among those they serve.

Please read the criteria and complete one Nomination Form per nominee for the CMS Health Equity Award, to be given at Quality Conference 2019. All Nomination Forms are due to Alexandra Bryden (HealthEquityTA@cms.hhs.gov) no later than December 7th, 2018.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE

All CMS partner/stakeholder organizations and networks, at the organizational level. This includes QIN-QIOs, BFCC-QIOs, HIINs, TCPI Networks, ESRD Networks, Hospitals, State Medicaid Agencies, Health Plans, Model Participants, Provider Groups and Organizations, and all other organizations who work with CMS beneficiaries and their providers.

HOW MANY

One entity will be awarded in 2019; additional awards may be made in the future.

CRITERIA

The award will go to an organization doing work over past year (January 1st, 2018 through December 31st, 2018) to advance health equity who can **demonstrate results**. The successful organization will be reducing disparities in health care quality, access, or outcomes for a priority population, including: racial and ethnic minorities, individuals with disabilities, sexual and gender minorities, or individuals living in rural areas. Suggested areas of improvement in disparities measures might be related, but are not limited to, *CMS Meaningful Measures* priorities, including: 1) Promoting Effective Communication & Coordination of Care; 2) Promote Effective Prevention and Treatment of Chronic Disease; 3) Work with Communities to Promote Best Practices of Healthy Living; 4) Make Care Affordable; 5) Make Care Safer by Reducing Harm Caused in the Delivery of Care; and 6) Strengthen Person and Family Engagement as Partners in Their Care.

SELECTION PROCESS

The CMS Office of Minority Health will receive recommendations for organizations that have already shown us measurable results to reduce a disparity, improve access, quality, or outcomes for a priority population. A committee of staff from across CMS involved in work on health equity will vet candidates and submit recommendations to CMS leadership for consideration/approval.

AWARD

The award will be given at the CMS Quality Conference, 2019. The awardee will receive national recognition by CMS and peers for their work through various CMS communication channels.

NOMINATION FORM

2019 CMS Health Equity Award

All Nomination Forms are due to Alexandra Bryden (HealthEquityTA@cms.hhs.gov) no later than December 7th, 2018.

NOMINATOR NAME & EMAIL ADDRESS:

ORGANIZATION NAME:

INDIVIDUAL LEADING THE WORK (E.G.: TEAM OR PROJECT LEAD)

Name/Title:

Email Address & Phone Number:

CEO or EXECUTIVE

Name/Title:

Email Address & Phone Number:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF HEALTH EQUITY ACTIVITIES:

RESULTS – WHAT GAP DID YOU CLOSE? BY HOW MUCH?