



Mid Shore Behavioral Health, Inc.
2025 Caliber Awards – Friday, May 16
Achieving Excellence in Public Behavioral Health

NOMINATION FORM

Nominations are due by Friday March 7, 2025.

Submit applications to Ishort@midshorebehavioralhealth.org

Adult and Older Adult Behavioral Health Advocacy Award

The Adult and Older Adult Services Workgroup Award recognizes an individual that exemplifies extraordinary efforts as an advocate for adults and older adults with behavioral health needs in our community. Their endeavors show continued collaboration with consumers of the Public Behavioral Health System, their natural supports, providers, and community entities. Through creative problem solving and/or developing partnerships in the mid-shore, this individual works towards bridging the gaps within behavioral health services to address health disparities. They share their knowledge of and passion for behavioral health advocacy with others. The nominee must be a volunteer or provider of behavioral health services (mental health and/or substance use) within the mid-shore region.

Nominated By: *

Full Name:

Organization (if relevant):

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Person Nominated: *

Full Name:

Organization (if relevant):

Email Address:

Phone Number:

***The nomination may not be accepted without complete names and contact information for both the nominee and the nominator.**

To demonstrate why the nominee should be considered for this award, please respond to the following questions, as applicable:

- How has the nominee demonstrated extraordinary efforts as an advocate for adults and older adults with behavioral health needs in the community?
- In what ways has the nominee collaborated with consumers of the Public Behavioral Health System, their natural supports, providers, and community entities?
- How has the nominee utilized creative problem-solving or developed partnerships to bridge gaps in behavioral health services and address health disparities?
- How does the nominee share their knowledge and passion for behavioral health advocacy to inspire and educate others?
- Is the nominee a volunteer or provider of behavioral health services (mental health and/or substance use) within the mid-shore region?

Completed Nominations can be submitted by fax, email, or snail mail:

- Fax to 410-770-4809
- Email to lshort@midshorebehavioralhealth.org
- Postal mail to:

ATTN: Lisa Short
Mid Shore Behavioral Health, Inc.
28578 Mary's Court, Suite 1
Easton, MD 21601

Nominations are due by Friday March 7, 2025.



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Nominations are due by Friday March 7, 2025.

Submit applications to sfegan@midshorebehavioralhealth.org

Child & Adolescent Advocacy Award

This award honors an individual who has demonstrated a strong commitment ensuring that all children and families are safe, healthy, and have access to quality behavioral health services and community resources. This person is dedicated to building relationships, working closely with community partners, and connecting families to the services they need to promote resilience, healing and growth. They are a passionate and knowledgeable advocate for children, youth, and families, consistently striving to promote hope and healing.

Nominated By: *

Full Name:

Organization (if relevant):

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Person Nominated: *

Full Name:

Organization (if relevant):

Email Address:

Phone Number:

***The nomination may not be accepted without complete names and contact information for both the nominee and the nominator.**

To demonstrate why the nominee should be considered for this award, please respond to the following questions, as applicable:

- How has the nominee demonstrated a strong commitment to ensuring that children and families are safe, healthy, and have access to quality behavioral health services and community resources?
- In what ways has the nominee built relationships and worked closely with community partners to support children and families?
- How has the nominee connected families to the services they need to promote resilience, healing, and growth?
- How does the nominee advocate passionately and knowledgeably for children, youth, and families?
- How has the nominee consistently worked to promote hope and healing within the community?

Completed Nominations can be submitted by fax, email, or snail mail:

- Fax to 410-770-4809
- Email to sfegan@midshorebehavioralhealth.org
- Postal mail to:

ATTN: Sarah Fegan
Mid Shore Behavioral Health, Inc.
28578 Mary's Court, Suite 1
Easton, MD 21601

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Nominations are due by Friday March 7, 2025.

Submit applications to jhoward@midshorebehavioralhealth.org

Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Champion Award

The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Champion award recognizes an individual, organization, or program that demonstrates commitment to, and passion for, full and meaningful incorporation of the principles of DEI in the Behavioral Health field. The DEI Champion award recipient may demonstrate routine advocacy for policy, program, and procedural (system) changes resulting in experience of dignity, equity, inclusion, and access for all, or may demonstrate leadership in community work, raising awareness and effecting change among community members. Whether the award recipient is involved in systems change, or community work, or both, please include a description of intended equitable outcomes and assessment practices.

Nominated By: *

Full Name:

Organization (if relevant):

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Person Nominated: *

Full Name:

Organization (if relevant):

Email Address:

Phone Number:

***The nomination may not be accepted without complete names and contact information for both the nominee and the nominator.**

To demonstrate why the nominee should be considered for this award, please respond to the following questions, as applicable:

- How has the nominee demonstrated commitment and passion for the full and meaningful incorporation of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) principles in the Behavioral Health field?
- In what ways has the nominee advocated for policy, program, or procedural changes that result in dignity, equity, inclusion, and access for all?
- How has the nominee shown leadership in community work, raising awareness, and effecting change among community members?
- If applicable, what equitable outcomes has the nominee intended to achieve through their work, and how have they assessed progress toward those outcomes?
- How has the nominee contributed to creating a more inclusive and equitable environment, either through systems change, community engagement, or both?

Completed Nominations can be submitted by fax, email, or snail mail:

- Fax to 410-770-4809
- Email to jhoward@midshorebehavioralhealth.org
- Postal mail to:

ATTN: J Howard
Mid Shore Behavioral Health, Inc.
28578 Mary's Court, Suite 1
Easton, MD 21601

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Nominations are due by Friday, March 7, 2025.

Submit applications to [jqvarnstrom@midshorebehavioralhealth.org](mailto:jquarnstrom@midshorebehavioralhealth.org)

Effective Programming

This award recognizes programs which are effective in improving the provision of behavioral health services for residents in the mid-shore region. Nominees will have demonstrated effective collaboration with consumers, family members, providers, and community leaders, using creative and cost-effective methods.

Nominated By: *

Full Name:

Organization (if relevant):

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Person Nominated: *

Full Name:

Organization (if relevant):

Email Address:

Phone Number:

***The nomination may not be accepted without complete names and contact information for both the**

nominee and the nominator.

To demonstrate why the nominee should be considered for this award, please respond to the following questions, as applicable:

- How has the program demonstrated effectiveness in improving the provision of behavioral health services for residents in the mid-shore region?
- In what ways has the program collaborated with consumers, family members, providers, and community leaders to achieve its goals?
- How has the program utilized creative methods to enhance behavioral health services?
- What cost-effective approaches has the program implemented to improve service delivery?
- How has the program's work positively impacted the mid-shore community?

Completed Nominations can be submitted by fax, email, or snail mail:

- Fax to 410-770-4809
- Email to jgvarnstrom@midshorebehavioralhealth.org
- Postal mail to:

ATTN: Jon Qvarnstrom, Administrative and Communications Manager
Mid Shore Behavioral Health, Inc.
28578 Mary's Court, Suite 1
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Submit applications to asimpers@midshorebehavioralhealth.org

Recovery Champion Award

Previously titled “Empowerment of Consumers”, this award recognizes an individual who has fostered the empowerment of others through the promotion of wellness and recovery. The person nominated for this award has contributed to forming a more resilience-oriented system of care, supporting others to improve their health and wellness, live a self-directed life, and achieve their fullest potential.

Nominated By: *

Full Name:

Organization (if relevant):

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Person Nominated: *

Full Name:

Organization (if relevant):

Email Address:

Phone Number:

***The nomination may not be accepted without complete names and contact information for both the nominee and the nominator.**

To demonstrate why the nominee should be considered for this award, please respond to the following questions, as applicable:

- How has the nominee fostered the empowerment of others by promoting wellness and recovery?
- In what ways has the nominee contributed to creating a more resilience-oriented system of care?
- How has the nominee supported others in improving their health and wellness?
- How has the nominee encouraged individuals to live self-directed lives and achieve their fullest potential?
- How does the nominee's work reflect a commitment to advancing wellness and recovery in the community?

Completed Nominations can be submitted by fax, email, or snail mail:

- Fax to 410-770-4809
- Email to asimpers@midshorebehavioralhealth.org
- Postal mail to:

ATTN: Ann Simperts
Mid Shore Behavioral Health, Inc.
28578 Mary's Court, Suite 1
Easton, MD 21601

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Submit applications to asaulsbury@midshorebehavioralhealth.org**

Forensic Mental Health Award

The Forensic Mental Health Award honors a member of the workforce community or of the Forensic Workgroup. This nominee will be someone who serves tirelessly in the community advocating for clients that currently have judiciary requirements and behavioral health concerns. The recipient must be striving hard to help reduce stigma and trauma to this unique population of people.

Nominated By: *

Full Name:

Organization (if relevant):

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Person Nominated: *

Full Name:

Organization (if relevant):

Email Address:

Phone Number:

***The nomination may not be accepted without complete names and contact information for both the nominee and the nominator.**

To demonstrate why the nominee should be considered for this award, please respond to the following questions, as applicable:

- How has the nominee tirelessly served the community by advocating for clients with judiciary requirements and behavioral health concerns?
- In what ways has the nominee worked to reduce stigma associated with this unique population?
- How has the nominee demonstrated efforts to address and reduce trauma experienced by individuals in this population?
- How has the nominee's work positively impacted clients with both behavioral health needs and judiciary involvement?
- How has the nominee contributed to the goals of the Forensic Workgroup or workforce community?

Completed Nominations can be submitted by fax, email, or snail mail:

- Fax to 410-770-4809
- Email to asaulsbury@midshorebehavioralhealth.org
- Postal mail to:

ATTN: Alisha Saulsbury
Mid Shore Behavioral Health, Inc.
28578 Mary's Court, Suite 1
Easton, MD 21601

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Submit applications to jqvarnstrom@midshorebehavioralhealth.org

Interagency & Community Collaboration Award

This award recognizes a provider's efforts and initiatives successfully collaborate with other agencies to provide easily accessible and needed services, support, and/or opportunities that improve the quality of life for consumers in the public behavioral health system.

Nominated By: *

Full Name:

Organization (if relevant):

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Person Nominated: *

Full Name:

Organization (if relevant):

Email Address:

Phone Number:

***The nomination may not be accepted without complete names and contact information for both the nominee and the nominator.**

To demonstrate why the nominee should be considered for this award, please respond to the following questions, as applicable:

- How has the provider successfully collaborated with other agencies to deliver accessible and needed services to consumers in the public behavioral health system?
- In what ways has the nominee's work improved the quality of life for individuals in the public behavioral health system?
- How has the provider demonstrated initiative in creating opportunities or support systems that benefit consumers?
- What specific efforts or programs has the provider implemented to enhance collaboration and accessibility of services?
- How has the nominee's collaboration with other agencies positively impacted the public behavioral health system?

Completed Nominations can be submitted by fax, email, or snail mail:

- Fax to 410-770-4809
- Email to jgvarnstrom@midshorebehavioralhealth.org
- Postal mail to:

ATTN: Jon Qvarnstrom, Administrative and Communications Manager
Mid Shore Behavioral Health, Inc.
28578 Mary's Court, Suite 1
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Submit applications to jqvarnstrom@midshorebehavioralhealth.org

Lifetime Achievement Award

This award recognizes a professional life of hard work, dedication, and contributions by an individual who has shown through their commitment and dedicated focus on improving the public behavioral health system.

Nominated By: *

Full Name:

Organization (if relevant):

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Person Nominated: *

Full Name:

Organization (if relevant):

Email Address:

Phone Number:

***The nomination may not be accepted without complete names and contact information for both the nominee and the nominator.**

To demonstrate why the nominee should be considered for this award, please respond to the following questions, as applicable:

- How has the nominee demonstrated a professional life of hard work and dedication to improving the public behavioral health system?
- In what ways has the nominee's contributions positively impacted the public behavioral health system?
- How has the nominee shown a sustained commitment to advancing the quality and accessibility of behavioral health services?
- What specific efforts or initiatives highlight the nominee's dedicated focus on improving the behavioral health system?
- How has the nominee's work left a lasting legacy or significant influence on the public behavioral health system?

Completed Nominations can be submitted by fax, email, or snail mail:

- Fax to 410-770-4809
- Email to jgvarnstrom@midshorebehavioralhealth.org
- Postal mail to:

ATTN: Jon Qvarnstrom, Administrative and Communications Manager
Mid Shore Behavioral Health, Inc.
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Submit applications to jquarnstrom@midshorebehavioralhealth.org

Mary Beth Brennaman

This award recognizes an outstanding individual who demonstrates an unconditional commitment to, and passion for, the mission and vision of his or her organization. This individual brings sincere compassion to the population served, and humor, generosity, spirit, and an overall outstanding attitude to the workplace. The individual eligible for the Mary Beth Brennaman Award can be any person in an agency who demonstrates an exceptionally positive attitude and support for their team, and consumers served.

Nominated By: *

Full Name:

Organization (if relevant):

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Person Nominated: *

Full Name:

Organization (if relevant):

Email Address:

Phone Number:

***The nomination may not be accepted without complete names and contact information for both the**

nominee and the nominator.

To demonstrate why the nominee should be considered for this award, please respond to the following questions, as applicable:

- How has the nominee demonstrated an unconditional commitment to and passion for the mission and vision of their organization?
- In what ways has the nominee shown sincere compassion for the population they serve?
- How does the nominee bring humor, generosity, spirit, and an outstanding attitude to the workplace?
- How has the nominee supported their team and contributed to a positive workplace environment?
- How has the nominee's actions and attitude positively impacted the consumers served by their organization?

Completed Nominations can be submitted by fax, email, or snail mail:

- Fax to 410-770-4809
- Email to jgvarnstrom@midshorebehavioralhealth.org
- Postal mail to:

ATTN: Jon Qvarnstrom, Administrative and Communications Manager
Mid Shore Behavioral Health, Inc.
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**Nominations are due by Friday March 7, 2025.
Submit applications to akessinger@midshorebehavioralhealth.org**

Roundtable on Homelessness Award

This award is to recognize an individual who has shown exemplary dedication to our group’s mission of ending homelessness in the mid-shore region. This individual is committed to developing relationships, collaborating with community partners, and connecting individuals and families to quality services, to foster resiliency and growth. This individual is a fierce and knowledgeable advocate for those experiencing homelessness in our communities and works diligently to improve service delivery across the continuum.

Nominated By: *

Full Name:

Organization (if relevant):

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Person Nominated: *

Full Name:

Organization (if relevant):

Email Address:

Phone Number:

***The nomination may not be accepted without complete names and contact information for both the nominee and the nominator.**

To demonstrate why the nominee should be considered for this award, please respond to the following questions, as applicable:

- How has the nominee demonstrated exemplary dedication to the mission of ending homelessness in the mid-shore region?
- In what ways has the nominee developed relationships and collaborated with community partners to support individuals and families experiencing homelessness?
- How has the nominee connected individuals and families to quality services that foster resiliency and growth?
- How has the nominee been a fierce and knowledgeable advocate for those experiencing homelessness in our communities?
- In what ways has the nominee worked to improve service delivery across the continuum of care for individuals experiencing homelessness?

Completed Nominations can be submitted by fax, email, or snail mail:

- Fax to 410-770-4809
- Email to akessinger@midshorebehavioralhealth.org
- Postal mail to:

ATTN: Ashley Kessinger
Mid Shore Behavioral Health, Inc.
28578 Mary's Court, Suite 1
Easton, MD 21601

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Special Recognition Categories

Submit applications to jqvarnstrom@midshorebehavioralhealth.org

Choose one below:

Deaf and Hard of Hearing	Consumer Choice	Trauma
Latino Population	Behavioral Health Integration	Advocacy
Volunteers	Peer Support	Prevention
Veterans	Emergency/Crisis Services	Leadership
Employment	Education	Defeating Stigma
Unsung Hero	Substance Use	Suicide Prevention
Wellness & Recovery		

Nominated By: *

Full Name:

Organization (if relevant):

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Person Nominated: *

Full Name:

Organization (if relevant):

Email Address:

Phone Number:

***The nomination may not be accepted without complete names and contact information for both the**

nominee and the nominator.

Please provide the reason for the nomination below. *The reason must match the description of the award category above and be as detailed as possible. Please no more than one page.*

Completed Nominations can be submitted by fax, email, or snail mail:

- Fax to 410-770-4809
- Email to jqvarnstrom@midshorebehavioralhealth.org
- Postal mail to:

ATTN: Jon Qvarnstrom, Administrative and Communications Manager
Mid Shore Behavioral Health, Inc.
28578 Mary's Court, Suite 1
Easton, MD 21601

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Submit applications to jquarnstrom@midshorebehavioralhealth.org

Bernie Vervin Beacon of Light Award

This award recognizes an individual whose work is driven by a profound sense of vocation and passion, consistently placing people first. Like a beacon of light, the recipient's selflessness and dedication shine through in their unwavering support of others, while also prioritizing self-care. They pay close attention to the personal needs of others and remember even the smallest details that make individuals feel truly valued. This person treats everyone with respect and warmth, cultivating a sense of friendship and connection with both long-time colleagues and new acquaintances. Their courage is evident in the way they navigate challenges, stepping outside their comfort zone to drive meaningful results. Additionally, they demonstrate self-awareness and are unafraid to seek support when needed, embodying the values of compassion, humility, and dedication.

Nominated By: *

Full Name:

Organization (if relevant):

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Person Nominated: *

Full Name:

Organization (if relevant):

Email Address:

Phone Number:

***The nomination may not be accepted without complete names and contact information for both the nominee and the nominator.**

To demonstrate why the nominee should be considered for this award, please respond to the following questions, as applicable:

- How has the nominee demonstrated a people-first approach by prioritizing the well-being of others and showing selflessness and dedication in their work?
- How does the nominee pay close attention to the personal needs of others and recognize small details that make individuals feel valued?
- In what ways has the nominee treated others with respect and warmth, fostering a sense of connection and belonging?
- How has the nominee shown courage in navigating challenges and stepped outside their comfort zone to achieve meaningful outcomes?
- How does the nominee build genuine relationships and foster trust with both long-time colleagues and new acquaintances?
- How has the nominee demonstrated self-awareness by recognizing their limits and seeking support when needed?
- In what ways does the nominee embody the values of compassion, humility, and dedication in their actions and decision-making?

Completed Nominations can be submitted by fax, email, or snail mail:

- Fax to 410-770-4809
- Email to jqvarnstrom@midshorebehavioralhealth.org
- Postal mail to:

ATTN: Jon Qvarnstrom, Administrative and Communications Manager
Mid Shore Behavioral Health, Inc.
28578 Mary's Court, Suite 1
Easton, MD 21601

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Nominations are due by Friday March 7, 2025.

Submit applications to astrazza@midshorebehavioralhealth.org

Excellence In Substance Use Recovery Award

This award honors exceptional contributions to the field of substance use recovery. It is awarded to individuals, programs, or initiatives that demonstrate outstanding dedication, innovation, and impact in supporting people on their recovery journey. Recipients of this award show a deep commitment to improving the lives of those affected by substance use disorders through effective recovery programs, advocacy for individuals and the recovery community, or efforts to reduce stigma. They embody compassionate care, creative problem-solving, cultural competence, and unwavering adherence to ethical standards.

Nominated By: *

Full Name:

Organization (if relevant):

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Person Nominated: *

Full Name:

Organization (if relevant):

Email Address:

Phone Number:

***The nomination may not be accepted without complete names and contact information for both the nominee and the nominator.**

To demonstrate why the nominee should be considered for this award, please respond to the following questions, as applicable:

- How has the nominee demonstrated exceptional dedication, innovation, and impact in supporting individuals on their recovery journey?
- In what ways has the nominee contributed to improving the lives of those affected by substance use disorders through effective recovery programs?
- How has the nominee advocated for individuals and the recovery community or worked to reduce stigma surrounding substance use disorders?
- How does the nominee embody compassionate care and creative problem-solving in their work?
- How has the nominee demonstrated cultural competence and a strong adherence to ethical standards in their contributions to the field of substance use recovery?

Completed Nominations can be submitted by fax, email, or snail mail:

- Fax to 410-770-4809
- Email to astrazza@midshorebehavioralhealth.org
- Postal mail to:

ATTN: Ashley Strazza
Mid Shore Behavioral Health, Inc.
28578 Mary's Court, Suite 1
Easton, MD 21601

Nominations are due by Friday March 7, 2025.