



The Colorado Health Foundation™

## Dr. Virgilio Licona Community Health Leadership Award Program Criteria and Nomination Application Requirements

### Background on Award Program:

The Dr. Virgilio Licona Community Health Leadership Award is [now open for nominations](#) through **Tuesday, April 20 at 5 p.m. MT**. This award recognizes impassioned Coloradans who are finding innovative and effective strategies to overcoming community health barriers across the state.

A nationally recognized advocate for social justice and the health of communities experiencing the greatest needs, Dr. Licona contributed to the health of Coloradans as a physician and expert in rural health care delivery and migrant health. His role as a leader – at both the systems- and community-levels – brought a critical voice to some of the most important conversations and decisions related to bringing health in reach for all Coloradans.

### The award program is designed to:

- Recognize impactful efforts advancing social justice for and health improvement of Coloradans who have historically had less power and/or privilege
- Advance innovative, proven and replicable solutions to address critical health issues in Colorado communities
- Recognize community health leadership and the power of community-based leadership in driving positive health outcomes
- Inspire others to strive toward Dr. Licona's standard of excellence and to honor those whose work embodies his spirit of care, compassion, activism and dedication

Through this award program, the Foundation recognizes one Coloradan annually who demonstrates distinguished leadership in the communities they serve and the systems they are working to disrupt for positive change.

### A strong nomination application will exhibit the following characteristics:

- Aligns with the [Foundation's cornerstones](#), which outline who we serve, how our work is informed and our intent to create [health equity](#).
- Advocates and creates a positive impact for advancing social justice and improving the health of Coloradans who have historically had less power and/or privilege
- Achieves positive systems- and community-level changes that advance health equity for people in their community
- Contributes to better public policies and practices in the field
- Fosters lasting connections and builds bridges among people with differing backgrounds or viewpoints

- Represents a community-based organization from any field (e.g., education, health, public safety, housing, economic development, environment, etc.) that shows evidence of improving health outcomes in their community

## Nominees must meet the following criteria:

- Must be a Colorado resident
- Must be making a positive impact on the health of Coloradans who have historically had less power and/or privilege
- Must have influenced or made a significant contributions to community health and/or public policy in the state that advances the Foundation's efforts to bring health in reach for all Coloradans

## Nominations must comply with the following eligibility requirements:

- Nominators are allowed to submit one nomination
- Potential candidates may be nominated by more than one person
- Organizations may nominate more than one person, but may only submit a single nomination per candidate.\*
- No self-nominations will be considered
- No Foundation Board member, Board committee community member, staff or their immediate family members will be considered
- No posthumous nominations will be considered
- No standing elected officials will be considered

## Nomination Schedule and Selection Process:

Award nominations [are open to the public](#) and will be accepted for consideration until **5 p.m. MT on Tuesday, April 20**. The nominator will receive a confirmation of their submission via email.

After the close of nominations, the review/selection process will occur this spring. Final decisions will be made by the Foundation's Board of Directors in the summer of 2021, and the awardee will be announced in the fall.

The award recipient will be offered the opportunity to designate a one-time \$20,000 donation to support his or her work or that of a nonprofit working to improve the health of Coloradans.\*\*

## Dr. Virgilio Licona Community Health Leadership Award Recipients:

[2016 – Dr. Virgilio Licona](#)

[2017 – Sundari Kraft](#)

[2018 – Liza Marron](#)

[2019 – Beka Warren](#)

*\*We encourage individuals within an organization to collaborate on submitting a single application per candidate.*

*\*\*The award donation funds may be distributed to the winner's Colorado-based charity of choice, but "shall be used for such charities that do not enjoy substantial support through taxation." As a result, the Colorado Health Foundation may only make a grant to a publicly-funded organization if the grant supports a specific project that does not receive most of its funding from public dollars.*