

Volunteer Awards for Outstanding Service

As an agency that recognizes the invaluable impact that volunteers have on the success of our programs and services, we were eager to find a method to recognize the achievements and commitment that our volunteers bring to our work in the field of HIV/AIDS. The Volunteer Program, in partnership with the Board of Directors, developed the ACCKWA Volunteer Awards for Outstanding Service. These awards are presented each year at the Annual General Meeting of the organization. Volunteers are recognized for outstanding service in each of five areas: Support, Education, Advocacy, Outreach, and PHA Inclusion and Engagement.

The first four awards have been named in honor of 4 individuals who, throughout their service and dedication to this organization and to the field of HIV/AIDS, have had a significant impact on the well-being of our community and the clients we serve. These volunteers have made generous contributions to the programs and services of ACCKWA. A fifth award was created in 2015 by the Turning to One Another Working Group. This new award honours a PHA (person living with HIV) who embraces the principles of GIPA - MEPA (Greater and Meaningful Engagement of people living with HIV). TTOA members wanted to recognize one of their peers who demonstrated their capacity for ongoing learning, sharing, and their commitment to promoting, engaging, and providing leadership to their community.

The five awards are:

The Colleen Coolin Memorial Award for Outstanding Support

The Gretchen Sangster Award for Outstanding Education

The Dave Grant Memorial Award for Outstanding Advocacy

Michael Baskett Memorial Award for Outstanding Street Outreach

The Turning to One Another Peer Recognition Award

We invite volunteers, clients, members or community partners to nominate current volunteers of ACCKWA for any category. Attached you will find the nomination form on which you can explain why you feel that the volunteer should receive the award. You may also attach any supplementary information. Volunteers may be nominated in more than one category. Volunteers may also be nominated in consecutive years; however volunteers will not be eligible to be recipients in consecutive years. Once completed, please submit your nomination forms to the office by the timeline indicated. Late nominations will not be accepted.

Once the timeline for nominations has passed, the Nominating Committee, along with the Coordinator of Volunteers and Peer Engagement, will review the nominees and complete the selection process. Selection criteria may include, but is not limited to, specific accomplishments, impact of work on community, agency or clients, length of service and previous awards received.

When the recipients have been chosen they will be contacted to provide their consent to have their names publicly recognized at the Annual General Meeting, in the Annual Report, and on the plaque mounted in the ACCKWA office.

