

Malaria Champions of the Americas Award

Background, Concept, and Objective

As countries of the Americas work to decrease the burden of malaria in the Region, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), Pan American Health and Education Foundation (PAHEF) and the George Washington University Center for Global Health (CGH) seek to identify, celebrate, and provide avenues to emulate best practices and success stories in malaria prevention and control. Conceived and launched on 6 November 2008 during the 2nd annual commemoration of Malaria Day in the Americas, the Malaria Champions of the Americas Award honors innovative efforts that have significantly contributed towards overcoming the challenges of malaria in communities, countries, the Region, or the globe. The recognition is conferred to implementers and provides them and their respective projects and institutions opportunities for capacity building, an expanded network for technical collaboration, and the distinction of being role models and inspirations for the global battle against malaria. Since 2009, six Malaria Champions of the Americas have been recognized. They have come from Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, and Suriname.

Criteria for Nomination

The 2011 Malaria Champions of the Americas Award recognizes organizations or collaborations that have used innovative approaches to overcome the challenges of malaria in the Americas. Ideal candidates will be able to demonstrate accomplishments in one or more of the following: strong use of gender, ethnicity, human rights, health promotion, primary health care, and social protection frameworks; and /or those that create synergies with prevention and control of other health problems. Activities should be ongoing or completed within one year from Friday, June 24, 2011.

Nominations will be evaluated based on demonstrated achievements in the following areas:

Capacity Building

Promotes the development of sustainable skills to help achieve objectives in reducing the burden of malaria

Technical Expertise and Innovation (in terms of use of integrated approaches and synergies)

Exhibits competent use of current technical knowledge, tools, and skills; and incorporates original, creative strategies that increase productivity

Collaboration

Fosters partnerships with stakeholders that fortify and broaden the scope and reach of activities

Leadership

Establishes direction, as well as influences and aligns with other collaborators towards accomplishing common objectives in a cohesive and coherent manner thereby serving as an influential role model

Impact

Demonstrates measurable positive effect in malaria prevention and control in the community, country, Region or globe

The organization carrying out project activities must be a legally established, registered bona fide entity. The nominated activities must not be projects carried out directly by PAHO, PAHEF, or the George Washington University CGH.

Selection Process and Calendar of Events

Nominations for the Malaria Champions of the Americas will be accepted from 25 April 2011 to 01 July 2011 (11:59 p.m. EST). To download forms, visit www.paho.org/malaria2011. A select panel of judges representing various sectors and stakeholders will review the top qualifying submissions and select the top three nominees. A documentary will be produced about each of these three nominees that will profile their achievements and efforts in overcoming the challenges of malaria. The panel of judges will use these documentaries to assist in the final selection of a winning candidate. The top three nominees will be announced in July 2011 and will be invited to participate in a regional event

that commemorates Malaria Day in the Americas on 8 November 2011 where the Malaria Champion of the Americas will be honored.

Award

The 2011 Malaria Champion of the Americas will receive:

- Opportunity to participate in three PAHO capacity-building trainings for malaria prevention and control
- US\$2,500 cash award for malaria-related capacity-building efforts (e.g., staff training / education; research; project proposal development; or other activities that enhance skills and abilities to achieve goals and targets)
- Commemorative plaque
- Opportunity to be featured in various communications platforms of PAHO, PAHEF, and GWU-CGH as best practice story on malaria.

The top three nominees will be invited and hosted to participate in a regional event for the commemoration of Malaria Day in the Americas on 8 November 2011 where the Malaria Champion of the Americas will be honored.

*Use of photographs/copyright: Please note that by submitting your nomination and supporting documents to the contest you agree to allow the materials to be reproduced, published or exhibited by the Pan American Health Organization, Pan American Health and Education Foundation, and the George Washington University Center for Global Health and grant unrestricted use in future media, educational or promotional materials.

For any further questions or concerns you may contact us at champion@paho.org or malaria@paho.org