

VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Purpose:

To recognize the exceptional contributions of a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant in community service which benefits older adults.

Rationale:

The commitment of many physical therapists and physical therapist assistants to older persons extends far beyond the traditional/professional roles in hospital, private practice, long-term care, or home care settings. The intent of this award is to highlight significant contributions in giving service to older adults or those who serve older adults on a volunteer basis outside of typical work related obligations.

Criteria:

To be eligible for this award the nominee should:

1. Be a current member of the Section on Geriatrics
2. Be or have been an active participation in the development and/or implementation of a project that serves(ed) the need or needs of an elderly person, group of elderly people or facilitates others to better meet the needs of this population
3. Demonstrate consistency of commitment in both time and effort
4. Carry out actions on a volunteer basis, i.e., involvement beyond usual work related requirements, that ultimately are beneficial to individuals who are elderly

Nomination Process:

1. A narrative letter from the SOG member applicant if self-nominated or from a member of the Section who is knowledgeable about the endeavor. The nominee and/or nominator should check to assure that the above criteria are met. The letter of nomination should be built upon the criteria and adequately describe the need that was met and the contribution made by the nominee.
2. At least two additional letters of support are required from those who know of the endeavor, e.g., other SOG members, beneficiary(ies) of the endeavor, or other knowledgeable individuals such family members or representative(s) of an organization which sponsors programs that meet needs of elderly individuals. These letters should describe the unique perspective of each writer regarding how the endeavor fulfilled a need of an elderly person or group of elderly people as well as the contribution(s) made by the person being nominated.
3. If the endeavor is a formally organized and/or previously recognized program supplemental materials should be included. Example materials are: brochure, newspaper article, electronic announcements, flyers, handouts, program assessment, etc. should be submitted in addition to the appropriate letter(s) noted above. All materials should be submitted electronically as one complete document (Word or pdf).

Mail Nominations to:

geriatrics@apta.org

Questions? 800/999-2782 x3238