

Employee of Distinction Awards

The Employee of Distinction Award recognizes the extraordinary dedication of direct service and indirect service staff, **not part of upper management**. Perhaps the nominee has positively affected the quality of life of those served or has significantly improved a service/program, or perhaps it's the manner in which the nominee displays a strong commitment to the organization. Whatever the reason, LeadingAge New York knows there are many who dedicate themselves to caring for others and we would like to help you express appreciation to them.

A total of 16 awards are presented in this category-two from each of the following regions:

- Capital/North - Albany, Clinton, Columbia, Delaware, Essex, Fulton, Green, Montgomery, Otsego, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schoharie, Schoharie, Warren and Washington
- Central/North - Cayuga, Franklin, Hamilton, Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Madison, Oneida, Onondaga, Oswego and Saint Lawrence
- Hudson Valley - Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster and Westchester
- Southern Tier - Broome, Chemung, Chenango, Cortland, Tioga and Tompkins
- Rochester - Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne and Yates
- Western - Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Niagara, Orleans and Wyoming
- New York City - Bronx, Kings, New York, Queens and Richmond
- Long Island - Nassau and Suffolk

This award is presented to winners at their home organization at the organization/winner's convenience. The New York State Legislature recognizes the extraordinary dedication of each of the award winners with the presentation of a legislative resolution. This is an ideal opportunity to have your representatives visit your organization to present the resolution in person and engage with their constituency. LeadingAge New York will work with you to schedule the presentation, invite legislators and help with media outreach.

LeadingAge New York's

Annual Awards recognize the very best of New York's nonprofit long term care, housing and services providers and the people who contribute their time, energy and professionalism to the field of aging. Please help us identify those worthy of this special recognition.

Nominations

Should be submitted via the appropriate "Nomination Form" in link. Questions should be addressed to Nancy Caban at **ncaban@leadingageny.org** or by calling 518.867.8824

Please submit all nominations by
February 27, 2026

LeadingAge®
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LeadingAge®
New York

Annual Awards 2026





LeadingAge New York Awards Program

2026 Call for Nominations



Lawrence E. Larson

Memorial Award of Honor

LeadingAge New York's highest award honors the late Larry Larson, the association's first chairman, and pays tribute to his distinguished service, dedication and foresight in aging services. The award is given to a member who has made outstanding contributions to the field and is a recognized leader at the state and national level with a reputation for humanitarian achievement and professional vision.

James W. Sanderson

Memorial Award for Leadership

This award, named for the late Jim Sanderson, LeadingAge New York's longtime counsel and friend, honors personal leadership and commitment by a New York State resident devoted to the field of long term care, housing and services who is employed by a not-for-profit long term care, services or housing organization.

Thomas Clarke

Memorial Award

Also known as the Senior Leadership Award, this honor memorializes the work of the late Tom Clarke in long term care, housing and services administration. It recognizes personal integrity and professional dedication in the next generation of leaders; nominees must be less than 40 years old as of December 31, 2025.

Carl S. Young

Advocacy Award

This award is bestowed on those who have served unselfishly and with distinction on the board of trustees of a LeadingAge New York member organization. The selection committee looks for significant contributions of time and effort toward the betterment of his or her organization and the people it serves or service to the elderly and infirm.

Professional of the Year

Award

This award honors a long term care, housing and services professional's contributions to the well-being of the elderly or chronically ill in his or her community. It is open to any long term care, housing and services professional from across the spectrum of care who demonstrates civic involvement as well as professional dedication, accomplishment and field expertise.

Trustee of the Year

Award

This award honors Carl Young, past president of LeadingAge New York, for his enduring, passionate advocacy for the aging. It is given to an active LeadingAge New York member who has demonstrated exceptional advocacy and leadership on behalf of aging services, commitment to advancing the association's legislative goals and actively encourages others to advocate for the elderly.