

Help Us Find the BEST Professionals

BY DONOVAN KUEHN, MANAGING EDITOR

“If you wish to succeed in life, make perseverance your bosom friend, experience your wise counselor, caution your elder brother and hope your guardian genius.”

Joseph Addison (1672–1719), British writer and politician

Do you know someone who deserves accolades for his or her effort, professionalism and devotion to the profession? Perhaps there is an “unsung hero” whose fine example and work should be nationally recognized. Wherever you are, you can submit that person for consideration for a NAADAC national award.

The Program

NAADAC established its awards program to identify and honor the outstanding work of addiction professionals and organizations that treat addiction. NAADAC’s program provides a unique opportunity to let others know about the professionalism and expertise exhibited by addiction professionals throughout the U.S. and the rest of the world.

Over 80 groups, individuals and organizations have received recognition from NAADAC in the 30 years since it began its awards program. Very select company considering that NAADAC has 8,000 members and the addiction profession encompasses over 76,000 clinicians.

NAADAC has recognized the best practices of addiction professionals since 1979, when it established the Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselor of the Year Award (since re-named the Lora Roe Memorial Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselor of the Year Award). The first winners, the Counselors of the U.S. Navy alcoholism and drug abuse program, came to prominence after the U.S. Department of Defense revised its policies to encourage voluntary identification and enrollment of those with addictions in treatment programs.

The Navy’s program was the first non-punitive military rehabilitation programs developed with a focus on treatment. The program treated addiction as a disease and ensured that those who volunteered for treatment could not be discharged under other than honorable conditions.

In a profession where interventions can have life or death consequences, choosing outstanding addiction professionals can be a difficult job. NAADAC, the Association for Addiction Professionals, recognizes the work of addiction professionals, organizations and public figures who work above and beyond to make a difference.

NAADAC honored three professionals and one program in 2012.

Mel Schulstad Professional of the Year

This award recognizes an individual who has made outstanding and sustained contributions to the advancement of the addiction counseling profession.

William J. Cosgriff, PhD, spent most of his professional career working for the Springfield Public Schools as a teacher, counselor/social worker, psychologist and administrator. He initiated the first Student Assistance Program in Massachusetts in 1980 and later was the driving force behind the establishment of the Springfield Recovery High School and served as its first Director. For the past 25 years, Dr. Cosgriff has been an adjunct faculty member at several colleges in the greater Springfield area, teaching classes in educational and adolescent psychology, as well as substance abuse prevention, intervention and treatment. Dr. Cosgriff is also a person in long-term recovery from substance abuse, having been clean and sober since 1975.

*NAADAC Award
Nominations Accepted
Until April 30*

Lora Roe Memorial Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselor of the Year

This award is presented to a counselor who has made an outstanding contribution to the profession of addiction counseling.

The **Rev. Carol Bolstad, MATS, LADC I**, the 2012 recipient of the Lora Roe Counselor of the Year Award, has been in the social service sector since 1998 when she began working with incarcerated men and women who were HIV positive. She has a deep commitment to working with those who are striving towards recovery, working with the street homeless, the mentally ill and, prior to her social service experience, she worked with college students in residential life who were just beginning to show signs of substance use disorders. Throughout all of this experience the majority of the individuals she has worked with have been living with substance use disorders. Rev. Bolstad was ordained as a priest in the independent catholic movement and the International Council of Community Churches in 2009. Since that time she founded Southeastern Open Door Mission, Inc. She does street and recovery ministry, continuing her commitment to working with the disenfranchised and dually diagnosed.



NAADAC President's Awards

The NAADAC President presents this award to an individual, institution or corporation in recognition of a long and continued commitment to the Association and in appreciation for support of the addiction profession.

Helene Cross, MS, has served as the President and CEO of Fairbanks for 11 years and has provided leadership for capital improvement and building projects exceeding \$12 million — all funded by grants and donations. Under her leadership, program revenue has tripled and all debt was eliminated. Cross has selflessly given of her time and talent to make hope and recovery a reality for thousands of individuals and families. Today, Fairbanks is a nationally recognized addiction treatment and recovery center. She is a member of the Greater Indianapolis Progress Committee and received the Annual Achievement Award from the American College of Addiction Treatment Administrators in 2012.

Joshua Holt “Josh” Hamilton has played in Major League Baseball since 2007 and is a member of the Texas Rangers (2008–present). He is a five-time All-Star and won the American League Most Valuable Player in 2010. Hamilton’s struggles with drugs and alcohol are well documented. He was spurred into recovery after being confronted by his grandmother, Mary Holt. Hamilton’s teammates — mindful of his past struggles — have chosen to celebrate major events with ginger ale instead of champagne.

John McAndrew is a singer/songwriter and piano player from St. Paul, Minn., who currently lives in Nashville, Tenn. His music has been heard around the world. Recent appearances include numerous NAADAC conferences, the 50th Anniversary of NATO at the Vice President’s Residence in Washing-

ton, D.C., the Betty Ford 25th Anniversary Alumni Banquet and the National Town Hall Meeting with Colin Powell. McAndrew performed his composition, Like We Were Made of Gold at the closing ceremonies of the 2000 International AA Convention. While touring, he speaks and performs for recovery audiences across the country, working regularly with Cumberland Heights in Nashville, the Betty Ford Center in California, Hazelden in Center City, Minnesota and Cirque Lodge in Sundance, Utah.

“Our professionals help save lives every day. The recipients of these awards exemplify the qualities held in highest regard by the addiction profession and the community,” said NAADAC Executive Director, Cynthia Moreno Tuohy.

Who will be the new professionals recognized for their excellent work? You may have a hand in telling that story.

Nominations for the 2013 awards must be received by the NAADAC Awards Committee **no later than April 30, 2013**. For full descriptions of NAADAC’s awards, please visit www.naadac.org/about/recognition-and-awards.

To make a submission, or for additional information, please contact Donovan Kuehn, NAADAC Director of Operations and Outreach, at 800.548.0497, ext. 125, or by e-mail at dkuehn@naadac.org.

Donovan Kuehn serves as the Director of Operations and Outreach for NAADAC, the Association for Addiction Professionals. While serving as Editor of the NAADAC News, the publication won an Apex Award for Communication Excellence in 2008. In 2010, Kuehn won a Rising Star Scholarship from the Angerosa Research Foundation, a nonprofit organization established in 2003 to conduct industry research to benefit the association publishing and marketing professions.

NAADAC has six awards to recognize excellence in the addiction profession. They include:

Mel Schulstad Professional of the Year

Presented for outstanding and sustained contributions to the advancement of the addiction profession.

William F. “Bill” Callahan Award

Presented for sustained and meritorious service at the national level to the profession of addiction counseling.

Lora Roe Memorial Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselor of the Year

Presented to a counselor who has made an outstanding contribution to the profession of addiction counseling.

NAADAC Organizational Achievement Award

Presented to organizations that have demonstrated a strong commitment to the addiction profession and particularly strong support for the individual addiction professional.

Medical Professional of the Year

Presented to a medical professional who has made an outstanding contribution to the addiction profession.

Lifetime Honorary Membership Award

This award recognizes an individual or entity who has established outstanding service through a lifetime of consistent contributions to the advancement of NAADAC, the addiction profession and its professionals.

Full awards criteria available at www.naadac.org/about/recognition-and-awards.



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