

American Psychiatric Association

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Dear Mental Health Professional:

The American Psychiatric Association's Psychiatric Services Achievement Awards Committee is soliciting applications for the 2009 competition. Please see the attached application form.

The Committee is seeking applications from innovative, ongoing programs of at least two years' duration that (1) offer services to the mentally ill or disabled, (2) have overcome obstacles, and (3) can serve as a model for other programs. Programs can be based in a school, a clinic, a hospital, or the community itself, and can provide unique human resource development, prevention, or administrative models that improve clinical care. The goal of the Achievement Awards is to recognize and publicize national models of creative service delivery. National recognition goes to the winners, including articles in the *Psychiatric Services* journal and *Psychiatric News*. Winners also are invited to participate in a special workshop at the 2009 Institute on Psychiatric Services. Initiated in 1949, this competition is supported by a grant from Pfizer Inc.

Two first prizes will be awarded, each consisting of a plaque and a \$10,000 grant from Pfizer Inc. The Achievement Awards Committee will group and rate the applications under the following categories:

- (1) Academically or institutionally sponsored programs
- (2) Community-based programs.

The Committee also will recognize second and third place winners with awards of \$7,500 and \$5,000 respectively. Awards will be presented in October 2009 at the APA's Institute on Psychiatric Services, New York, New York.

Part of the Awards' evaluation process includes a site visit to the highest ranked programs by a member of the appropriate APA District Branch. These reports are particularly helpful to the Awards Committee in the selection of the Gold Award winners.

Please note that application packets must be received by March 31, 2009. You can obtain additional application forms by calling 703-907-8592 or through APA's Web Site at <http://www.psych.org/achievementawards>. We look forward to receiving your application.

Sincerely,



Beatrice M. Kovaszny, M.D.
Chair, 2009 Achievement Awards Committee

P.S. For a list of previous winners, please go to the web site listed above.

