

## AHA Awards Descriptions

The awards are the Gold Heart Award, Award of Meritorious Achievement, Louis B. Russell, Jr., Memorial Award, AHA Physician of the Year Award, AHA Healthcare Volunteer of the Year Award, Ron Haddock AHA/ASA International Impact Award and Morgan Stark Memorial Award.

### A. **Gold Heart Award**

This is the highest award of the AHA. This Award is conferred annually upon those individuals who have rendered the most distinguished service over time in advancing the objectives of the AHA. Recipients of this Award are selected primarily for their continued and significant contributions over time to the national AHA and its programs, rather than for scientific or research accomplishments which are recognized through the Distinguished Scientist award, Research Achievement award and Council awards. Two to four awardees are selected annually. The two past Officers who become eligible are to be affirmatively reviewed by the Awards Subcommittee, although they are not automatically entitled to receive the Award. In addition to any Officer recipient(s), ideally there should be 1-2 non-Officer recipients.

### B. **Award of Meritorious Achievement**

This Award is conferred annually upon those individuals or organizations that have rendered an important service to the Association, rather than for local accomplishments which are recognized through Affiliate awards. Recipients of this Award are selected primarily for a specific significant accomplishment or project for the national AHA. The *specific* accomplishment or project must be identified on the form. Two to four awardees are selected annually.

### C. **Louis B. Russell, Jr., Memorial Award**

This award is presented annually to one Association volunteer for outstanding service in addressing healthcare disparities and/or service to minority and underserved communities and enhancing the relationship between the Association and under-served communities. The awardee is not restricted to being a minority. The nominee is to be a volunteer in the spirit of Louis B. Russell, Jr., who has given freely of self for the benefit of others.

### D. **AHA Physician of the Year Award**

This award is conferred annually upon one practicing physician who has rendered outstanding contributions to the accomplishment of the Association mission. The recipient is to be a volunteer at the division, Affiliate, or national AHA level, and is to be a practicing physician with direct patient care responsibilities. It is not for scientific and academic achievement by physicians, which can be recognized through awards at Scientific Councils, Scientific Sessions or other science conferences.

### E. **AHA Healthcare Volunteer of the Year Award**

This award is conferred annually upon one healthcare volunteer who has rendered outstanding contributions to or achievements in CVD/stroke patient care or improvements in the quality of healthcare delivery. The recipient is to be a volunteer at the division, Affiliate, or national AHA level, and is to be a professional (registered or licensed vocational nurse, physician assistant, EMT, etc.) or administrator. It is not for physicians, or for scientific or academic achievement by healthcare professionals, which can be recognized through award mechanisms in place for the Scientific Councils, Scientific Sessions or other science conferences.

### F. **Ron Haddock AHA/ASA International Impact Award**

This award is conferred annually upon an individual or group that has rendered an important service to the American Heart Association in the development or implementation of its international programs. Recipients of this award are selected primarily for a significant accomplishment or project or a sustained valuable contribution that significantly contributes to AHA/ASA international goals. The award is not intended to acknowledge service at the Affiliate level.

Officers are ineligible for three years following the end of their term of office. Primary emphasis should be given to individuals or groups involved with or supporting the Association, however, other individuals or groups may be considered when their contributions to the international control of cardiovascular diseases and stroke meaningfully and significantly advance the objectives of the Association. Although intended primarily for volunteers, staff members can be considered if their achievement or contribution is outstanding. Citizens of other countries can be considered.

G. **Morgan Stark Memorial Award**

This award may be conferred annually upon one AHA national volunteer who has been an outstanding steward of AHA resources and a leader in the areas of human resources, finances or operations of the organization. The recipient shall: (a) be an active member/volunteer of the AHA and a volunteer in the spirit of Morgan Stark who brought a wealth of business experience and deep insight into how AHA could maximize the impact of its mission through efficient and effective operations; (b) have provided significant contributions to AHA of stewardship and leadership in the areas of human resources, finances or the operations of the AHA; and (c) may be a lay or medical volunteer.

| <b>AHA National Committees</b>                 | <b>Description</b>  |
|--|---|
| <b>Advocacy Coordinating</b>                   | AHA's primary volunteer committee responsible for establishing public policy agenda, policy positions and annual priorities at federal, state and community level; provides guidance and direction to HA team in Washington, DC and affiliate advocacy staff across country; evaluates effectiveness and success of the advocacy efforts.   |
| <b>American Stroke Association Advisory</b>    | Advises on strategic planning; positioning within stroke marketplace; social business, marketing and messaging needs for brain health, stroke risk, acute treatment/recognition and recovery; the development of culturally relevant programs, products, services and strategic alliances needed to achieve ASA goals and improve patient outcomes  |
| <b>Diversity Leadership Committee</b>          | Provides consultation on goals associated with Association-wide strategies, diversity and multicultural related strategies, programs, and initiatives; consultation on efforts associated with health disparities; and consultation to further develop cultural competencies  |
| <b>Emergency Cardiovascular Care (ECC)</b>     | Support the ECC Impact Goals, in order to optimize success of ECC's mission within AHA: "Building healthier lives free of cardiovascular diseases and stroke by improving the chain of survival in every community and health system." Goals are to increase survival from cardiac arrest (includes prevention of cardiac arrest) and to increase performance of out-of-hospital CPR.   |
| <b>Get with the Guidelines (GWTG) Steering</b> | Provides strategic direction for the GWTG Inpatient programs including but not limited to: general oversight of Subcommittees and Clinical Work Groups; direction and evaluation for marketing, communication and business plan for the program; advise on emerging market and industry trends and other environmental factors that might impact the GWTG activities; recommend and interpret policies that impact the GWTG activities and functions. |
| <b>Healthier Diet Business Management</b>      | Advise and provide guidance on: strategic planning for new healthy eating initiative development to ensure overall integrity and viability; current and new business models for   |

|  |   |
|--|---|
|  | healthy eating initiatives. Advise on market insights, industry practices, and other environmental factors that might impact AHA healthy eating initiatives.  |
| <b>Hospital Accreditation Science</b>          | Formulates accreditation criteria, standards and process for AHA/ASA hospital accreditation and certification programs; evaluates the impact of the hospital accreditation program(s) in improving the quality of patient care; provides science review and consultation to the Hospital Accreditation Business Management Committee; review and recommends approval/denial hospital accreditation/certification on-site reports from accreditation/certification reviewers.                          |
| <b>International Committee</b>                 | Develops strategic plan for AHA's international work and coordinates international strategies among all AHA committees; serves as the Board of the Paul Dudley White Foundation, overseeing expenditures from this fund. Global Strategies is under the direction of the International Committee which plans and executes the AHA international activities.   |
| <b>Mission: Lifeline Steering Committee</b>    | In charge of strategic direction of the Mission: Lifeline program and evaluation of program status; oversees Mission: Lifeline Subcommittees on STEMI, Stroke, and Resuscitation.   |
| <b>Patient and Consumer Programs Oversight</b> |   |
| <b>Research Committee</b>                      | Recommends research policy and the AHA's research program Portfolio; evaluate performance of research programs against stated objectives; oversees research program peer review process; manages National Research Program; supports public advocacy initiatives and priorities; fosters communications at all levels among Affiliate research committees, peer review committees, and the AHA Research Committee; and develop and implement a strategic plan for the Association's research program. |
| <b>Scientific Publishing Committee</b>         | Provides oversight of scientific publishing operations; ensures that operations are conducted in accordance with sound business practices and that scientific content of publications is of highest quality, including: developing and approving policies governing   |

|   |  |
|---|--|
|   | AHA scientific publications; forming search committees to appoint new journal Editors-in-Chief; evaluating and establishing goals and objectives for scientific journals.  |
| <b>Science and Clinical Education Lifelong Learning Committee (SCILL)</b> | Provides oversight and support for all activities (Council & non-Council) related to the AHA's science and clinical learning enterprise. Oversees development of a 365 content, engagement & networking plan; ensures robust evaluation of programs & tactics; champions adoption of robust business models. |