

## **2017 Jane Ochrymowycz Award for Advocacy Call for Nominations**

**Background:** On December 30, 2011, the Minnesota Elder Justice community lost a legendary advocate, Jane Ochrymowycz. Jane's legislative advocacy and biography reflect major milestones in vulnerable adult act reform. Her active participation in local World Elder Abuse Awareness Day events and her service on the Advisory Board to the William Mitchell College of Law Center for Elder Justice & Policy add to the reasons to establish an annual advocacy award in her memory, to coincide with Minnesota's commemoration of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD).

The purpose of the Jane Ochrymowycz Award for Advocacy is to recognize Minnesotans for their outstanding advocacy for vulnerable adults. Prior recipients included:

- 2012 – Amy Sweasy, Senior Prosecutor, Hennepin County Attorney's Office
- 2013 – Iris Freeman, Chair, Board of Directors, Minnesota Elder Justice Center
- 2014 – Scott Campbell, Duluth Police Department, Retired
- 2015 – Carmen Castaneda, Program Manager, Hennepin County Adult Protection Services
- 2016 – Dave Hall, Adult Protection Services, Carlton County Public Health and Human Services

This year's award will be presented at the Minnesota World Elder Abuse Awareness Day Conference at Earle Brown Heritage Center in Brooklyn Center, Minnesota on June 14, 2017. The awardee will receive a framed certificate as well as an engraved plaque on the award's perpetual plaque.

**Nominations:** Written nominations require a primary letter with two supporting statements. The letter must be double-spaced and not exceed 750 words. Supporting statements must be double-spaced and not exceed 250 words.

**Criteria:** Criteria include commitment to advocacy, achievements, and overall recommendations by colleagues. The advocacy may be either job-related or voluntary.

**Award Selection Committee:** The WEAAD Planning Committee will serve as the Award Selection Committee.

**Instructions to Nominators:** Attach the primary letter and the two supporting statements and send by *email only* to Katie Behrens at [katie.behrens@elderjustice.mn](mailto:katie.behrens@elderjustice.mn).

**NOMINATIONS ARE DUE BY APRIL 24, 2017.**

*Anetzberger and Balaswamy, in their landmark study of state-level elder abuse summits, describe "complex and pervasive" issues that require "planning and collective action at multiple levels. Altering the current status of elder abuse cannot rest with a single organization, discipline, or system."*