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Nominations Open for 2015 Schwartz Center National Compassionate Caregiver of the Year Award

NCCY Award honors healthcare providers who demonstrate extraordinary compassion

BOSTON (Feb. 25, 2015) – The Schwartz Center for Compassionate Healthcare, the only national nonprofit dedicated to strengthening the human connection at the heart of healthcare, today announced that nominations are now open for its prestigious Schwartz Center National Compassionate Caregiver of the Year (NCCY) Award. The award, given annually since 1999, recognizes healthcare providers who demonstrate extraordinary devotion and compassion in caring for patients and families.

“With the growing demands placed on caregivers today, an increasing number are suffering from burnout and some are even leaving their chosen profession,” said Schwartz Center Executive Director Julie Rosen. “The NCCY Award helps draw attention to the importance of compassion and the human connection in healthcare by honoring caregivers and helping them feel supported and valued for the amazing work they do every day.”

The Schwartz Center is accepting nominations for the 2015 NCCY Award until May 1, 2015. Individual healthcare providers and teams that work in any U.S. healthcare setting and have direct patient contact are eligible. Nominees may include physicians, nurses, therapists, social workers, psychologists, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, certified nursing assistants, home health aides, and chaplains – as well as interdisciplinary teams of caregivers. Nominations may be submitted by patients, family members or colleagues who work with the nominee.

The NCCY Award recipient and five finalists will be chosen by a national review committee and honored before an audience of 2,000 patients, caregivers and healthcare executives at the 20th Annual Kenneth B. Schwartz Compassionate Healthcare Dinner on Nov. 18 in Boston. The recipient will be presented with a \$5,000 award and the five finalists will receive \$1,000 each.

“Receiving this award was humbling,” said 2014 award recipient Thea James, MD, an emergency medicine physician at Boston Medical Center. “I felt it was an honor shared with patients who are my teachers, and with colleagues whose partnership makes our work possible. It affirmed that rewarding feeling you have when you see hope and relief in a patient’s eyes—it’s priceless.”

More information about the award and nomination process is available at:
theschwartzcenter.org/award.

About the NCCY Award

The NCCY Award is a national recognition program that elevates excellence in compassionate healthcare. Every year since 1999, the Schwartz Center has honored caregivers who embody the characteristics of compassionate care, which include effective communication, emotional

support, mutual trust and respect, the involvement of families in healthcare decisions, and treating patients as people, not just illnesses. Visit theschwartzcenter.org/award for award details and to nominate a caregiver.

About the Schwartz Center for Compassionate Healthcare

The Schwartz Center for Compassionate Healthcare is the only national nonprofit dedicated to nurturing patient-caregiver relationships to strengthen the human connection at the heart of healthcare. Research shows that when caregivers are compassionate, patients do better and caregivers rediscover their passion for healing. The Center believes that a strong patient-caregiver relationship characterized by effective communication, emotional support, mutual trust and respect, and the involvement of families in healthcare decisions is fundamental to high-quality healthcare. Visit us at theschwartzcenter.org or follow us on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#).

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