

Prestigious National Award Recognizes Founding President & CEO Dr. Jan Yost



Grantmakers In Health (GIH), the nation's preeminent membership organization of health funders, recently announced that the Foundation's founding president & CEO, Dr. Jan Yost, will be honored with the Terrance Keenan Leadership Award in Health Philanthropy at the GIH annual conference in June. This prestigious national award was covered in a [T&G article](#) on Saturday, and it has been likened to an Oscar in the field of health philanthropy.

The [Terrance Keenan Leadership Award in Health Philanthropy](#) recognizes outstanding individuals in the field of health philanthropy whose work is distinguished by leadership, innovation, and outstanding achievement.

"Leadership provides the inspiration and momentum needed to address today's pressing health issues. It also provides vision and insight into the challenges of tomorrow. Leadership entails innovation. In the face of deeply rooted problems, leaders affirm, improvise, and take risks. More importantly, they surround others with the freedom, encouragement, and knowledge to create long-term solutions for their communities."

First presented by GIH in 1993, the award's past recipients have predominantly represented large, national foundations with assets in the hundreds of millions or billions of dollars and with dozens of individuals on staff, if not more. That Dr. Yost was selected as the 2022 recipient due to her leadership at a regional foundation with assets just under \$100 million is truly remarkable. Dr. Yost was nominated by Dr. Thoru Pederson of the University of Massachusetts Medical School, a founding Director.

This award "is intended to stimulate others to strive toward this same standard of excellence and acknowledge those whose work embodies [Terrance Keenan's] spirit of innovation, compassion, and dedication." Indeed, Dr. Yost has inspired so many of us to strive toward the same standard of excellence she steadfastly exhibited over nearly 23 years of service to the Central Massachusetts region. Dr. Yost officially retired on March 31, 2022, and her spirit of innovation, compassion, and dedication is forever embedded in the Foundation's approach to grantmaking.

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