

Massachusetts Health Officers Association

Distinguished Service Awards

John D. Crowley Award

In honor of the late John D. Crowley, who served the City of Cambridge as Executive Health Agent and a member of the Health Department for over 50 years. He rendered distinguished service to the Massachusetts Health Officers Association as a founder of the Metropolitan Health Officers Association and served as secretary for many years. This award is given annually to a regular member of the Massachusetts Health Officers Association, who contributed to the growth and success of the Massachusetts Health Officers Association through outstanding leadership and extraordinary service.

Curtis M. Hilliard Award

In honor of the late Curtis M. Hilliard, one of the founders of the Metropolitan Health Officers Association, which later became the Massachusetts Health Officers Association. He was Health Supervisor for Wellesley, Needham and Weston from 1926-1956. He was recognized with honors from the Massachusetts Health Officers Association, American Public Health Association, and Massachusetts Public Health Association. This is awarded annually to a citizen of the Commonwealth who has demonstrated his/her concern for the advancement of public health programs to the benefit of citizens, of which it is their right to expect, and has assisted in the delivery of health services and programs to fulfill these expectations.

Michael D. Saraco Award

In honor of the late Michael D. Saraco, who was instrumental in the formation of the Board of Certification of Health Officers and was appointed by the Governor to serve on that Board for eight years. He was dedicated to the Massachusetts Health Officers Association since its inception, and served as its President and Executive Secretary. He was involved with many civic associations and served on numerous health committees and task forces in Massachusetts. This award is presented annually to a member of the Massachusetts Health Officers Association who has exemplified the qualities of the man for whom it was named. Through Mike's dedication, loyalty, friendship, enthusiasm and leadership, the Massachusetts Health Officers Association has grown to be the most prestigious and leading organization of Public Health in Massachusetts.

Public Health Nursing Award

This award is presented annually to a Public Health Nurse who has demonstrated exceptional dedication in carrying out the public health mandates of a regional or local municipal agency.

Jeffrey P. Stephens Award

This award is given in honor of the late Jeffrey P. Stephens, a cherished member of the MHOA Board of Directors and one of its officers at the time of his sudden illness and death in 2022. Jeff was a cheerful force for good in local public health, and his contributions extended well beyond the communities in which he worked. He was both a leader and a consummate volunteer, serving on and eventually chairing the Local-State Advisory Committee and its Small Budget Group, and helping to guide local public health preparedness efforts across the Commonwealth. Jeff seemed to be everywhere all at once – he never had to be asked to help, no matter how thin he was stretched he always volunteered. This award is given annually to a member of any of the Coalition for Local Public Health organizations who, through their dedication, commitment and extensive service on committees or coalitions, has advanced regional or state-wide efforts to expand local public health capabilities.