

# CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

2010

**MetLife Foundation**  
Older Volunteers  
Enrich America  
AWARDS



**A unique opportunity to nominate an outstanding older  
volunteer for national recognition**



The National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a) is pleased to announce the 2010 MetLife Foundation *Older Volunteers Enrich America Awards*. This program, now in its eighth year, builds on the Foundation's and n4a's shared commitment to and support for healthy aging and volunteer initiatives.

The goal of the awards program is twofold: (1) to honor and build awareness of the exemplary contributions of older volunteers and (2) to encourage other older adults to contribute their knowledge, skills and time to enrich society through volunteerism. An awards ceremony in Washington, DC, on May 7, 2010 will honor 25 volunteers.

## MetLife Foundation

*MetLife Foundation was established by MetLife in 1976 to carry on its longstanding tradition of corporate contributions and community involvement. Grants support health, education, civic, and cultural programs throughout the United States. For more information about the Foundation, visit the web site at [www.metlife.org](http://www.metlife.org).*

*The National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a) is the leading voice on aging issues for Area Agencies on Aging across the country and a champion in our nation's capital for Title VI Native American aging programs. For more information about n4a, visit [www.n4a.org](http://www.n4a.org).*



*Advocacy. Action. Answers on Aging*

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## Advisory Board

MetLife Foundation and the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging are very grateful for the support provided to the *Older Volunteers Enrich America Awards* by members of the Advisory Board.

An awards ceremony in Washington, DC, on May 7, 2010 will honor 25 volunteers.

Gold honorees and representatives of their volunteer organizations will attend with all of their expenses paid. Silver honorees can attend, with modest support offered.

Nomination forms are also available at [www.n4a.org](http://www.n4a.org).

**Deadline: n4a must receive nominations by February 12, 2010.**

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION**  
**Friday, February 12, 2010**



**ELIGIBILITY:**

A nominee must be **at least 50 years of age** and have volunteered for the program or organization for which they are being nominated **for at least one year**.

**WHO MAY NOMINATE:**

Any organization that runs a program that utilizes volunteers is eligible to submit a nomination. The nominating organization must *host* the volunteer program for which an individual is being nominated. An organization may nominate **only one volunteer**. **Individuals may be nominated for one award category only.**

These awards are for individuals, not groups. Nominations for groups or teams of three or more will not be accepted. Couples of only two members (spouses, life partners, or siblings) are eligible if they participate in the volunteer program together. Individuals may not nominate relatives.

**AWARD CATEGORIES:**

- **Community Champion Awards** honor older volunteers who use their time and talent to make their **entire community** a better place to live. These volunteers might build affordable housing, tackle local environmental projects, or address health care needs in their community, among many other activities.
- **Mentor Awards** honor older volunteers whose energies are devoted to working with youth and their families. These volunteers might share their wisdom and experience as a mentor, tutor or coach, helping young people make a successful transition to adulthood.

- **Team Spirit Awards** honor older volunteers who assist **other older adults**. These volunteers may participate in friendly visitor programs, offer counseling on health care or financial issues, provide transportation to appointments, deliver meals or any of a host of other activities.

**Note:** Please read carefully the descriptions of each category and choose the category that most closely describes the contribution made by the individual volunteer—is it, for example, a service for the entire community or specifically for older adults? n4a reserves the right to change nomination categories for submitted entries to most accurately reflect the focus of each category.

**SELECTION CRITERIA:**

The following criteria will identify honorees. Be sure to address **all** of these elements in your submission.

- **Overall impact.** The nominee's work has had a significant impact on others or the community. What specific community need or problem does this volunteer address by his or her efforts? **(40 points)**
- **Unique contribution.** The nominee's efforts are "above and beyond the call of duty." While others contribute to the volunteer program, this person makes a particularly noteworthy contribution (such as initiating the program or encouraging others to volunteer). Is his or her role new or non-traditional? **(30 points)**

- **Special skills and talents.** The nominee's special skills and talents are a major contributor to their success and impact as a volunteer. **(20 points)**
- **Volunteer program.** The volunteer program is well conceived and provides the tools, training and support necessary to empower its volunteers. In addition, the program's contributions to individuals and the community are easily recognized. **(10 points)**

**NOMINATION MATERIALS:**

An online nomination process is available and is the preferred mode of application. **Please adhere to the maximum word count for the narrative portions of the application, and do not send supplemental materials unless specified. n4a reserves the right to eliminate nominations that do not comply with these requirements.** Apply online at <http://www.n4a.org>.

A mail-in nomination is also acceptable. If you choose to submit by mail, you must submit the completed nomination form and narrative and **adhere to the maximum word count for the narrative portions of the application.** Please do not provide any supplemental materials since they will not be considered during the review process.

**Deadline:** n4a must receive completed nomination materials either **online or by mail by Friday, February 12, 2010.**

**NOTIFICATION:**

We will contact organizations whose nominees will receive an award by early April, 2010. We will also notify all other nominating agencies about the outcome by late April.

**Number of honorees:** The awards will honor 25 older volunteers. There are two levels of recognition: **Gold Honors** (top honoree in each category) and **Silver Honors**.

**Awards ceremony:** The awards presentation will take place at a luncheon ceremony in Washington, DC on May 7, 2010. Each of the three Gold Honorees, a representative of his or her volunteer organization, and a family member will receive an invitation to attend, with all expenses paid. Modest support is available to Silver Honorees who wish to attend. All honorees are welcome and encouraged to participate.

**Recognition:** All honorees and their volunteer organizations will receive recognition at the event, whether or not they are present. Each honoree will receive an engraved gift acknowledging his or her achievement. The honoree's organization will receive a monetary award to help further its work: \$2,500 in recognition of Gold Honorees and \$1,000 for Silver Honorees.

**Role of nominating agencies:** The organizations whose nominees receive awards will be asked to play a key role in securing media coverage about the honoree with support from n4a. n4a will request assistance from organizations representing Gold Honorees in providing photos of the honorees and coordinating travel arrangements.



For more information about the awards program: [www.n4a.org](http://www.n4a.org).

## NOMINATION FORM

Deadline for Submission is Friday, February 12, 2010

**Type or print legibly**

### ABOUT THE NOMINATING ORGANIZATION:

Your name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Street address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

### ABOUT THE VOLUNTEER PROGRAM:

Name of program \_\_\_\_\_

Number of volunteers (on an annual basis) \_\_\_\_\_

Length of time in existence \_\_\_\_\_

*Narrative: On a separate sheet, please describe the following in 200 words or less:*

- (1) Volunteer program and its goals;
- (2) Training and other tools and support provided to volunteers; and
- (3) Specific contributions made by the program to individuals or the community.

### NOMINATION FOR (check one only):

See "Award Categories" for descriptions.

- ( ) Community Champion Award  
( ) Mentor Award  
( ) Team Spirit Award



### ABOUT THE VOLUNTEER:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Length of service with the program \_\_\_\_\_



## NOMINATION FORM/2

*Narrative: On a separate sheet, please describe the following in **500 words or less**. Be as specific as possible.*

- (1) The impact the nominee has on others or their community as a result of his or her volunteer work;
- (2) The ways in which the nominee makes noteworthy contributions to the program (such as initiating the program or encouraging others to volunteer); and
- (3) Any special skills or talents the nominee has that enhance his or her contribution as a volunteer.

**Please include the names of the nominee and nominating agency on all attached pages.**

### DEADLINE:

**Friday, February 12, 2010**

**n4a must receive the completed nomination form *and* narratives by Friday, February 12, 2010. No faxes, please.**

**MAIL TO:** Mary Brugger Murphy  
National Association of Area Agencies on Aging  
1730 Rhode Island Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 1200  
Washington, DC 20036

### QUESTIONS?

**Contact Mary Brugger Murphy at 202.872.0888 or [mbruggermurphy@n4a.org](mailto:mbruggermurphy@n4a.org)**