

# Ordinary Heroes of Mental Health

## 2017 Pathway To Hope Founder's Award

Celebrating the Unseen People that serve while honoring the life and service of our Founders, Dick and Sharon Lawrenz,

### Background:

*In 1988, Sharon and Dick Lawrenz's 11-year-old son was diagnosed with mental illness. The couple struggled through a cumbersome Mental Health System and as a result of those taxing experiences; Pathway To Hope became a dream. They wanted to help other families. "No one should navigate the uncharted waters of mental illness alone," Sharon said. By sheer force of willpower, their tireless work impacted individuals in the Kansas City Metro area and across the United States. While there is not a clear account here on earth as to the scope of their work, we know that Heaven has a full record! Dick and Sharon have retired from full-time ministry and service, but they remain in full support of the work of Pathway To Hope. They are delighted to be a part of the committee receiving the nominations. Pathway To Hope is blessed to recognize, in small portion the Ordinary Heroes of Mental Health!*



**Nomination information:** We invite you to **nominate individuals who embody "dedication and devotion to serving individuals and families facing mental illness."** You will need to be prepared to state clearly what your nominee has done to be worthy of your nomination during the 12-month period of 7/31/16-8/1/17.

**Nominees need not be associated with Pathway To Hope.** All nominees will be considered, though preference will be given to individuals who are working in the Greater Kansas City area.

**Deadline for nominations:** Must be received, in person or online, by midnight on Monday, Aug. 18<sup>th</sup>.

All nominees will be reviewed by the Founder's Award Committee, who will narrow the nominees to the four (4) individuals that will be named as finalists on 9/1/17. The finalist will be posted on the Pathway To Hope webpage and the recipient will be announced at the 2017 Night of Hope Gala, benefit for Pathway To Hope.

**All nominees must be able to meet these eligibility requirements:**

Nominees must be U.S. Citizens or living legally in the United States, 18 years or older, and the work they are being nominated for must take place between 7/31/16 – 8/1/17. Individuals employed by Pathway To Hope are not eligible to receive the award.

**Finalist Requirements:** Individuals who are named as one of the finalist will be invited to provide biographical information to Pathway To Hope as a means of demonstrating their commitment to the mental health field. We ask that all finalists be present at The Sheraton Overland Park Hotel on October 19<sup>th</sup> from 6-9 pm at the 2017 Night of Hope Gala during a pre-function reception and stay, as a guest, for dinner and awards presentation. All costs associated with attending the event are the responsibility of the finalists.

The quality of the presentation is in direct proportion to our Gala Team's ability to integrate individual information into the evening.

**To Nominate, please complete the entire form at:** [www.pathwaytohope.org/nominations](http://www.pathwaytohope.org/nominations)

**Comments or questions can be directed to:** [pth@pathwaytohope.org](mailto:pth@pathwaytohope.org)