

The Frist Foundation Awards of Achievement: Innovation in Action

Award Summary:

This award recognizes organizations that have developed innovative ways to carry out their missions, especially in a time of uncertainty, challenge, and difficult. The innovation can be large- or small-scale – but should go beyond the usual approaches to management or service delivery. This category encompasses newer programs that help accomplish mission or improves management by streamlining or reducing operational costs. Applicants should consider what makes their program unique and then describe it with passion and creativity.

Finalists Awards:

An award of \$25,000 will be presented to the winner, and \$10,000 will be awarded to each of the two finalists at CNM's annual Salute to Excellence.

Requirements for the Innovation in Action Award:

- Must be an organization that has been a 501(c)(3) for at least three years and is a member of CNM providing significant services to residents of Middle Tennessee.
- Local chapters of national organizations may apply, provided the chapters are locally managed, have their own tax-exempt status, and have full financial information available on a local basis.
- In keeping with The Frist Foundation's general funding guidelines, hospitals, nursing homes, and retirement homes are not eligible.
- The program or project nominated for the Innovation in Action award must have been launched no earlier than January 2016. We welcome applications focused on pivots in light of the challenges of the pandemic.

Previous Winners and Finalists:

- Previous \$25,000 winners of any of the Frist Awards of Achievement are not eligible to reapply for three years. (For example, if the agency was a Frist award winner in 2018, the agency is eligible to re-apply for a Frist award in 2022.)
- Previous \$10,000 recipients (finalists) may reapply, but not in the same category for three years. (For example, if the agency was a Frist Innovation in Action finalist in 2018, the agency is eligible to re-apply for Frist Innovation in Action in 2022.)

Questions:

We welcome responses relevant to the unique challenges of the pandemic and its effects on our community. Providing specific examples will help our panelists get to know your nominated project or program.

CNM believes in creating an equitable, connected community. We aspire to be a brave, inclusive, collaborative space for nonprofits, their partners, and the communities they serve. If applicable, we encourage responses that reflect how diversity, equity and inclusion may have informed your approach to innovation.

Thank you for taking the time to share this nomination – we look forward to learning about your exceptional work!

1. Describe the innovation, when it started, and how it is unique. Was it a result of pivots made during the challenges of the pandemic? (Limit response to 250 words)
2. How does the innovation permit you to further the mission of your organization and impact the lives of people you serve? Give specific examples as applicable. (Limit response to 200 words.)
3. Was this idea originated by your organization, by another, or by an organization or association with which you are affiliated? How can this program be replicated or adapted by other organizations? (Limit response to 100 words.)
4. What were the greatest management challenges you encountered and met successfully in carrying out the program or project? Did your innovation require new technological advances? (Limit response to 250 words.)
5. How has the innovation helped your agency? What is the 'problem' you are trying to solve? What have been the specific, measurable and/or observable results achieved over time? What are the projected results for the next three years? (Limit response to 250 words.)