



317 Board 2022 Advocacy Award Nominations

Please print or type:

Name _____

Date _____

I am nominating _____ for the following award(s):

- ___ Rita Gillick Mental Health Advocacy Award
- ___ Valeria Ann “Taffy” Marks Substance Abuse Prevention Advocacy Award
- ___ Athens County Behavioral Health Advocacy Award
- ___ Hocking County Behavioral Health Advocacy Award
- ___ Vinton County Behavioral Health Advocacy Award

I recommend this person be recognized for the following reason(s):

The nominee is employed by a contract provider of the Board. Yes ___ No ___

If yes, please print provider name: _____

The nominee resides/works in Athens ___ Hocking ___ Vinton ___ County.

Nominated by (and organization if applicable): _____

Please provide contact information for the person you are nominating.

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please return form to: Beth Mohammed, Executive Assistant-317 Board, 7990 Dairy Lane, Athens, OH 45701 Email: beth@ahv317.co.athens.oh.us or Fax to: 740-592-1996

Rita Gillick Mental Health Advocacy Award

The Rita Gillick Mental Health Advocacy Award was established in 1986 in honor and memory of Rita Gillick, an early advocate for those with mental illnesses. Rita was hospitalized for over 25 years of her life and upon discharge became a founding member of The Gathering Place. She was known statewide as an advocate for client's rights and consumer directed services and served on the Athens-Hocking-Vinton Community Mental Health Board for six years. The award is presented annually to a person who demonstrates the overwhelming willpower of Rita Gillick to never stop in their advocacy efforts for those with mental illnesses.

Valeria "Taffy" Marks

Substance Abuse Prevention Advocacy Award

The Valeria "Taffy" Marks Substance Abuse Prevention Advocacy Award was established in 1991 in memory of Valeria "Taffy" Marks, RN, who was a tenacious advocate for support and treatment for those battling personal addictions. An early supporter of substance abuse treatment, Taffy advocated before the Ohio Nurses Association's House of Delegates in 1978 for the creation of the Peer Assistance Program to help nurses addicted to alcohol and other drugs. Many nurses around the state owe their survival to her efforts. The award is presented annually to a person who demonstrates the strength and courage of Taffy Marks in their advocacy for those struggling with addictions.

Behavioral Health Awards

Athens, Hocking and Vinton Counties

Each year, the Board presents awards to individuals in each of the three counties for their advocacy for and commitment to the community. In 2017, the Mental Health Advocacy Award and Substance Abuse Prevention Award were combined into Behavioral Health Awards.