

# The Michael Varnam Awards 2019

## Who can you nominate for this worthy achievement award?

In 2007 the NHS Nottingham City, in conjunction with partners, set up an annual recognition award in memory of Dr Michael Varnam. Michael was a great inspirational practitioner who worked tirelessly for 35 years to improve the health and wellbeing of some of our most disadvantaged people in Nottingham. He died aged 61, at a time when his influence was most strongly felt. The local health community wanted to honour his life and ideals, as well as his vision for the future.

The award is given to publicly recognise and honour the dedication, enthusiasm, commitment and achievement of an individual or group that has made a difference to the health and wellbeing of people in Nottingham.

Often individuals are not acknowledged for their hard work and achievements. The award seeks to recognise an individual or group who, motivated by altruism and caring, has made a difference to either the population as a whole or a disadvantaged section of our community. In keeping with Michael's own focus, this could be the care of persons with substance misuse problems or the homeless; but may embrace any field where vulnerable individuals or populations are helped. A panel of judges will consider all nominations and select a winner.

The judging panel will consist of:

- Director of Public Health, Nottingham City
- NHS Nottingham City Clinical Commissioning Group Representative
- Health & Wellbeing Board representative
- One Nottingham representative
- Youth Parliament representative

2018's individual winner was Gordon Garrick who has worked tirelessly in the substance misuse field for years and has helped many people's lives.

- Worked for the Nottingham Recovery Network and has inspired his colleagues with his dedication to service users and his ability to work with a range of partners including psychiatrists, social services, courts, judges, politicians, benefits panels and commissioners to support those in his care

2018's group winners were The Sit Up Shelter, who help homeless people in Nottingham.

The shelter opened in January 2018, working with partners to prevent rough sleeping.

- Run by volunteers working for the British Red Cross and with the premises provided by Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service, the shelter opened to homeless people whenever temperatures fell below freezing. People at risk of rough sleeping were given shelter and safety for the night, along with help to access more permanent help through the Street Outreach Team and Housing Aid

You can nominate yourself, an individual or a group within health, social care, the voluntary community or business sector for their special contribution in the last year. Simply complete and return the attached form.

## The closing date for nominations is 13th September, 2019

Return your completed nomination form to Julie Carlin, Public Health, Nottingham City Council, Loxley House, Station Street, Nottingham, NG2 3NG or by email [julie.carlin@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:julie.carlin@nottinghamcity.gov.uk)