



## North Carolina Diabetes Advisory Council

# The North Carolina Diabetes Advisory Council (DAC) Awards and Scholarship

### 2025 DAC Awards Nomination and Application Form:

<https://communityandclinicalconnections.formstack.com/forms/ncdiabetesaward2025>

Each year the DAC accepts and selects nominations to recognize those who have demonstrated exemplary work in diabetes prevention and management including employers, caregivers, faith communities, health care providers, and pharmacists. **Those nominated must have encouraged others to eat healthy, be physically active, live tobacco free, get adequate sleep, participate in a diabetes program, or adhere to a personalized diabetes treatment plan as outlined in [North Carolina's Guide to Diabetes Prevention and Management](#) (Review pages 33-44).** Nominators and scholarship applicants are required to complete the online application/nomination form along with a letter of recommendation outlining specifics of how the nominee supports diabetes prevention and management as outlined in the NC Guide to Diabetes Prevention and Management. Nominations are open from May 1 - July 31, all applications/nominations must be received by July 31<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 pm. Award recipients are selected in September, invited to the Fall DAC Meeting on October 3, 2025 and recognized during the awards ceremony.

### The award and scholarship categories are:

#### [John Bowdish Community Award](#)

Recognizes a person or organization that has provided community support in one or more of the areas highlighted above from North Carolina's Guide to Diabetes Prevention and Management.

#### [Myrna Miller Employer Award](#)

Recognizes an employer who has provided support in one or more of the areas highlighted above from North Carolina's Guide to Diabetes Prevention and Management.

#### [Health Care Provider Award](#)

Recognizes a hospital, clinic, health care organization or person in the health care field who has provided support in one or more of the areas highlighted above from North Carolina's Guide to Diabetes Prevention and Management.

#### [Hugh Young Diabetes Care and Education Specialist Scholarship](#)

Recognizes a diabetes care and education specialist with a one-time financial award to participate in one of the following:

1. American Diabetes Association Annual Conference.
2. Association of Diabetes Care & Education Specialists Conference or Training
3. Other national meetings that support diabetes care and education efforts.
4. A training to become a certified Diabetes Prevention Program Master Trainer\* by a CDC-approved Lifestyle Coach and Master Training Entity.  
*\*Please note: If making this selection, the awardee must be a current and practicing trained Diabetes Prevention Program Lifestyle Coach.*
5. A North Carolina training that supports diabetes care and education efforts.

#### [Past DAC Award Winners](#)

For questions or additional information about the DAC Awards, please contact [dac@diabetesnc.com](mailto:dac@diabetesnc.com).

## John Bowdish Community Award

The John Bowdish Community Award recognizes a **person or organization** that has provided community support in one or more of the following areas: Encourage others to eat healthy, be physically active, live tobacco free, get adequate sleep, participate in a diabetes program, or adhere to a personalized diabetes treatment plan, as outlined in [North Carolina's Guide to Diabetes Prevention and Management](#).



**John Bowdish** was an original member of the NC Diabetes Council. As a person with diabetes, he was a tireless advocate for those who shared his condition. He was instrumental in passing two of the most powerful pieces of legislation regarding diabetes in North Carolina, allowing people with diabetes to have their medication, supplies and education covered by insurance. He also helped to ensure the safety and inclusion of children with diabetes in school. These awards honor community members who exemplify the spirit of Mr. Bowdish and who engage their community in activities that support diabetes prevention and management.

### Selection Criteria

The award recipient will be selected based on his or her ability to demonstrate the success and impact of completed work in diabetes prevention and/or management.

### Application Form

Please complete one (1) Diabetes Award Nomination Form online, which includes the following:

**1. Letter of Recommendation**

- a. From individual(s) familiar with the nominee's work and have a professional relationship with the nominee that outlines specific details of how the nominee support diabetes prevention and management as outlined in North Carolina's Guide to Diabetes Prevention and Management.
- b. Ensure the letter of recommendation covers all the strategies selected on the online application.

**2. Optional: Additional pertinent information included as attachments**

**Please note: Self-referrals or self-nominations will not be accepted or reviewed by the DAC Awards Review Committee.**

### Deadline for Applications

The completed online application form including a letter of recommendation outlining specifics of how the nominee supports diabetes prevention and management as outlined in the NC Guide to Diabetes Prevention and Management must be received by **July 31<sup>st</sup> at 5:00pm.**

## **Myrna Miller Employer Award**

The Myrna Miller Employer Award recognizes an **employer** who has provided support in one or more of the following areas: Encourage others to eat healthy, be physically active, live tobacco free, get adequate sleep, participate in a diabetes program, or adhere to a personalized diabetes treatment plan, as outlined in [North Carolina's Guide to Diabetes Prevention and Management](#).



**Myrna Miller Wellons**, a social worker and lawyer, was a women's rights and social welfare champion. She was employed in corporate affairs for Lilly USA at her death and was responsible for the company's government relations in North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee and Arkansas on mental health and diabetes issues. She led efforts to educate consumers for the first Diabetes Day at the NC General Assembly in 2008. Her friends and professional colleagues remember her energy and passion for her work and her causes which included social work and diabetes. She served as the Vice Chair of the NC Diabetes Advisory Council from 2008 until her death in March 2010 of a stroke.

### **Selection Criteria**

The award recipient will be selected based on his or her ability to demonstrate the success and impact of completed work in diabetes prevention and/or management.

### **Application Form**

Please complete one (1) Diabetes Award Nomination Form online, which includes the following:

**1. Letter of Recommendation**

- a. From individual(s) familiar with the nominee's work and have a professional relationship with the nominee that outlines specific details of how the nominee support diabetes prevention and management as outlined in North Carolina's Guide to Diabetes Prevention and Management.
- b. Ensure the letter of recommendation covers all the strategies selected on the online application.

**2. Optional: Additional pertinent information included as attachments**

**Please note: Self-referrals or self-nominations will not be accepted or reviewed by the DAC Awards Review Committee.**

### **Deadline for Applications**

The completed online application form including a letter of recommendation outlining specifics of how the nominee supports diabetes prevention and management as outlined in the NC Guide to Diabetes Prevention and Management must be received by **July 31<sup>st</sup> at 5:00pm.**

## **Health Care Provider Award**

The Health Care Provider Award recognizes a **hospital, clinic, health care organization or person in the health care field** who has provided support in one or more of the following areas: Encourage others to eat healthy, be physically active, live tobacco free, get adequate sleep, participate in a diabetes program, or adhere to a personalized diabetes treatment plan, as outlined in [North Carolina's Guide to Diabetes Prevention and Management](#).

### **Selection Criteria**

The award recipient will be selected based on his or her ability to demonstrate the success and impact of completed work in diabetes prevention and/or management.

### **Application Form**

Please complete one (1) Diabetes Award Nomination Form online, which includes the following:

**3. Letter of Recommendation**

- a. From individual(s) familiar with the nominee's work and have a professional relationship with the nominee that outlines specific details of how the nominee support diabetes prevention and management as outlined in North Carolina's Guide to Diabetes Prevention and Management.
- b. Ensure the letter of recommendation covers all the strategies selected on the online application.

**4. Optional: Additional pertinent information included as attachments**

**Please note: Self-referrals or self-nominations will not be accepted or reviewed by the DAC Awards Review Committee.**

### **Deadline for Applications**

The completed online application form including a letter of recommendation outlining specifics of how the nominee supports diabetes prevention and management as outlined in the NC Guide to Diabetes Prevention and Management must be received by **July 31<sup>st</sup> at 5:00pm.**

## **Hugh Young Diabetes Care and Education Specialist Scholarship**

The Hugh Young Diabetes Care and Education Specialist Scholarship recognizes and financially supports one deserving diabetes care and education specialist in North Carolina who has made outstanding and long-lasting contributions to diabetes prevention, care, education, and management. The Hugh Young Award provides a one-time scholarship up to \$1,600 to an individual selected by the NC DAC Awards Committee and determination will be based upon the selection criteria and a complete application form with required documents.



**Hugh Young** was a former chair of the NC Diabetes Advisory Council. For over twenty years he was Director of the Edgecombe County Health Department until he retired in 1993. During his career, Mr. Young received several awards from the North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors, the North Carolina Public Health Association and the North Carolina Hospital Association. Hugh Young dedicated his professional career to promoting public health. His family has assured that his legacy lives on by helping deserving diabetes care and education specialists.

### **Selection Criteria**

The award recipient will be selected based on his or her ability to demonstrate the success and impact of completed work in diabetes prevention, care, education, and management as well as a commitment to advance his or her education as a diabetes care and education specialist. The one-time financial award will be used to support the awardee's participation in one of the following:

1. American Diabetes Association Annual Conference.
2. Association of Diabetes Care & Education Specialists Conference or Training.
3. Other national meetings that support diabetes care and education efforts.
4. A training to become a certified Diabetes Prevention Program Master Trainer\* by a CDC-approved Lifestyle Coach and Master Training Entity.

*\*Please note: If making this selection, the awardee must be a current and practicing trained Diabetes Prevention Program Lifestyle Coach.*

5. A North Carolina training that supports diabetes care and education efforts.

### **Application Form**

Please complete one (1) Diabetes Award Nomination Form online, which includes the following:

#### **5. Letter of Recommendation**

- a. From individual(s) familiar with the nominee's work and have a professional relationship with the nominee that outlines specific details of how the nominee support diabetes prevention and management as outlined in North Carolina's Guide to Diabetes Prevention and Management.
- b. Ensure the letter of recommendation covers all the strategies selected on the online application.

#### **6. Optional: Additional pertinent information included as attachments**

### **Deadline for Applications**

The completed online application form including a letter of recommendation outlining specifics of how the nominee supports diabetes prevention and management as outlined in the NC Guide to Diabetes Prevention and Management must be received by **July 31<sup>st</sup> at 5:00pm.**

## 2024 DAC Award Winners



**Hugh Young Diabetes Care and  
Education Specialist Scholarship**  
Lynsi Beers



**Health Care Provider Award**  
Roanoke Chowan Community Health Center



**Myrna Miller Employer Award**  
Pinehurst Medical Clinic



## 2023 DAC Award Winners



**Health Care Provider Award**  
Pinehurst Medical Clinic



**John Bowdish Community Award**  
Shemecka McNeil, Slice 325



**Hugh Young Diabetes Care and Education Specialist Scholarship**  
Callie Huneycutt, MS, RD, LDN

## 2022 DAC Award Winners



**Health Care Provider Award**  
Angie Watson, Pitt County Public Health  
Department



**Health Care Provider Award**  
Dr. Karen Sherr, MD, PhD, Duke University

## 2021 DAC Award Winners



### **John Bowdish Community Award**

Ashton Johnson, MPH, Granville-Vance Public Health



### **Hugh Young Educator Scholarship**

Sarah Bologna, MS, RN, ACNS-BC, Duke Regional Hospital



### **Health Care Provider Award**

Dr. Leonor Corsino, MD, MHS, Duke University School of Medicine



### **Myrna Miller Employer Award**

Dosher Memorial Hospital





**North Carolina Diabetes Advisory Council**

## **2020 DAC Award Winners**



### **John Bowdish Community Award**

Cabarrus Health Alliance Minority Diabetes Prevention Program



### **Health Care Provider Award**

Dr. Shiv Patil – East Carolina University, Brody School of Medicine, Department of Family Medicine



### **Hugh Young Educator Scholarship**

Bridget Carroll – YMCA of Southeastern NC



## North Carolina Diabetes Advisory Council

### 2019 DAC Award Winners

#### John Bowdish Community Award

- Renee Kemske – Orange County Health Department, DSMES Program

#### Myrna Miller Employer Award

- Jason Horay and Curi, Inc.

#### Health Care Provider Award

- Dr. Charles Cook – Raleigh Associated Medical Specialists
- Whitney Jezek – Onslow County Health Department



### 2018 DAC Award Winners

#### John Bowdish Community Award

- Rachel Marquez - Healthy Communities Department at Cone Health
- Susan Houston – Vidant Health

#### Myrna Miller Employer Award

- Ahunna Freeman - Southside Discount Pharmacy

#### Health Care Provider Award

- Healthy Communities Department at Cone Health
- Melissa Herman - FirstHealth Diabetes & Nutrition Center



### 2017 DAC Award Winners

#### John Bowdish Community Award

- Dr. Ijeoma Uwakwe, Wilson Value Drugs
- Ms. Shannon Summer, Clay County Health Department

#### Myrna Miller Employer Award

- Ms. Krista Ariail, QunitilesIMS
- Cleveland County Health Department

#### Healthcare Provider Award

- Dr. Susan Spratt, Duke University Medical Center
- Martin Tyrell Washington Health District





**North Carolina Diabetes Advisory Council**

## **2016 DAC Award Winners**

### **Myrna Miller Employer Award**

- CarolinaEast Health Systems

### **John Bowdish Community Award**

- Rev. Richard Joyner
- Centralina Area Agency on Aging
- YMCA of Western North Carolina

