

Nominee	Sterling J. Gildersleeve
Organization	Phoenix Recovery Support Services
Title	President
Category	Individual
Describe your relationship with the person you are nominating and how long you have known the nominee.	<p>I have known Sterling for 22 years. We first met while he was serving as the Executive Director of A Safe have in 2000. I was a resident at the time and Sterling became not only an inspiration but a mentor professionally, an example of a person in recovery and then my supervisor. Sterling's life has been dedicated to helping others to develop thier own path in recovery, education stakeholders and trailblazing for the recovery community. He is now my business partner and I have learned more about the needs, challenges, how to advocate and educate than I have my enitre career. Sterling lives and breathes recovery, not only for himself but for our entire state.</p>
Describe the nominee's work to promote the awareness of recovery with policymakers, the media, and others on the local, state and/or national level.	<p>Sterling J. Gildersleeve has over 30 years of experience in the field of alcoholism and substance use treatment and recovery services with experience in providing management services in halfway house, residential extended care, and sober housing programs. Sterling was instrumental in writing 2060.509, the Illinois regulations for Recovery Homes.</p>
Describe the advocacy issues the nominee is most passionate about.	<p>Sterling is dedicated to increasing services for people with substance use disorder. Sterling has forged lasting relationships during his career with community partners and developed professional training programs, all to achieve the goal of increasing awareness of substance use illness in communities across the state of Illinois. Due to his dedication for supporting underserved populations, countless lives have been saved and many more people have a chance at recovery, finding hope in their future once again. Helping people who are struggling and also ending the stigma around the disease has been his passion for his entire career.</p> <p>Sterling works tirelessly to battle misinformation and is always looking for new and innovative ways to help our communities. He is an incredible asset to the state of Illinois.</p>
Describe the quality and quantity of the nominee's contributions toward advancing recovery (i.e., launched advocacy campaign, organized town hall	<p>Key Accomplishments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Responsible for the design, implementation and management of sixteen facilities (1500 beds) for men, women and children in the Chicagoland area, encompassing substance abuse services, workforce development, both short and longer-term residential aftercare, as well as independent living.

meetings, started an organization, speaking tour, writing, etc.).

- Initiated and developed the Women with Children Program through DCFS and Illinois Office of Substance Abuse

- Initiated and developed a program with the Cook County Department of Corrections providing and supportive services to assist in reducing recidivism for detainees and overcrowding in the county jail

Initiated and developed a 25 bed Youth Emergency Overnight Shelter program to offer temporary housing and case management to homeless male, female and trans gender youth

- Initiated and developed the treatment alternative program for gay men who are HIV positive

- Initiated and developed Veterans Grants Per Diem Housing program that houses 30 veterans for a stay of up to two years

- Developed and initiated a 100 bed Veterans Transitional program that house and provides case management services to male and female veterans

Specialist in:

Structuring and managing long/short term residential aftercare facilities

- Devising strategies to penetrate new markets and develop new business
- Preparing and negotiating multimillion dollar, long-term contracts
- Managing strategic plan development and execution
- Uniting and mentoring people to form multicultural, cross functional teams
- Creating and directing training programs and establishing policies to improve productivity
- Navigating operational and technical situations
- Preparing and delivering internal and external presentations
- Performing public relations functions and serving as media link
- Developing and administering budgets
- Analyzing and preparing detailed reports and forecasts
- Identifying trends and creating organizational systems and procedural improvements
- Contributing to new program developmentRegional Board Director National Association of American Halfway House and Alcoholism Programs

	<p>Professional Affiliations:</p> <p>Board of Directors Illinois Association of Extended Care</p> <p>Board of Directors Illinois Association of Extended Care</p> <p>Committee Member NCRS Certification Board</p> <p>Past President/ National Association of American Halfway House and Alcoholism Programs</p> <p>Co- Chairman/Housing Committee Member for the Aids Foundation of Chicago</p> <p>Previous Board of Directors ACCESS Health Network</p> <p>Past Chairman / Illinois Association of Extended Care</p> <p>Advisory member GLATTC (Great Lakes Addictions Training Transfer Center)</p> <p>Board President YANA (You Are Not Alone) Recovery Home</p> <p>Board of Directors SRHAC (Single Room Housing Assistance Corporation)</p> <p>Bachelor of Science Degree/ Major in Social Work</p> <p>State of Illinois Certified Alcohol/Drug Counselor</p> <p>Nationally Certified Recovery Specialist</p> <p>Certified HIV Education & Addiction Counselor</p> <p>United States Air Force Honorable Discharge</p>
Awards and Honors (if any)	N/A