



RACE MATTERS UNSUNG HERO MATERNITY SUPPORT WORKER OR STUDENT

ENTRY CRITERIA

Eligible: Any RCM member midwife, student midwife, maternity support worker or Higher Education Institution staff

Individual or team category: You can submit an entry an individual only

Entry or nominated: This category is nomination only

Category description:

This award is to honour and celebrate an extraordinary unsung hero such as a midwife, student midwife, Maternity Support Worker or Higher Education Institution staff from a Black, Asian or Ethnic background. The Race Matters Unsung Hero award has been funded by Birthing And Maternity Education, Birthing With Colour and delivered in collaboration with the RCM, to recognise the contributions of unsung Heroes without thought of recognition; to deliver exemplary service delivery or education that promotes collaborative, culturally sensitive working and ultimately higher standards of care for all service users.

The nominated unsung hero must demonstrate exemplary commitment within maternity services or the profession. The individual has demonstrated outstanding contributions through service delivery, research, teaching, staff networks, activism, mentoring, curriculum transformation, coaching, and/or a combination of creativity in these fields. The award is particularly looking for how their work commitments or innovation implementation has contributed to positive changes within the maternity services, safety and the health and wellbeing of women, babies, families and communities throughout pregnancy, birth and the postnatal period.

The judges are looking for:

- A contribution over and above to support, nurture, inspire and assist colleagues
- Commitment to work as a team or led from behind the scenes demonstrating a positive attitude and/or enthusiasm within their capacity to ensure optimal experiences and outcome of others
- Understanding of the impact that conscious bias, unconscious bias, prejudice, disparities and discrimination can have on either/or the delivery of high quality maternity care service users and/or staff
- Evidence of the respect and admiration of colleagues
- A champion for change in cultures, attitudes and behaviours that improve either the experiences or outcomes for maternity service users, staff or within Higher Education Institutions
- Consistency works above and beyond within their capacity but does not expect or seek praise for their work ethic or positive contributions to maternity services

Submission rules:

In order to ensure a smooth and efficient entry process we ask that you follow some simple rules:

- Your entry form **must be anonymous**. If the judges can identify your entry, it may be disqualified.
- The word count for entries is **750 words** (This includes all sections of the entry form). References are not included in this word count. If your entry does exceed this word limit, you run the risk of being disqualified.
- You must complete the official entry form. Other documents cannot be accepted.
- As part of the entry, you can supply supporting documentation. It must be supplied as one, separate document and limit it to 3 single sided A4 pages. Any additional material may not be reviewed.
- All shortlisted entrants are expected to attend an individual judging day in Central London to present their project to a panel of judges.

Please note: all entries must be submitted online via the RCM Awards website: www.rcmawards.com

***PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE ANY NAMES OR NHS TRUST/BOARD OR UNIVERSITY NAMES ON THIS FORM. THIS ENTRY MUST BE ANONYMOUS**

PROVIDE A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE PERSONAL QUALITIES OF THE NOMINEE – WHAT MAKES THIS PERSON SPECIAL?

PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW THE NOMINEE DEMONSTRATES EXEMPLARY COMMITMENT TO MATERNITY SERVICES

DESCRIBE HOW THIS INDIVIDUAL'S COMMITMENT TO MATERNITY SERVICES OR INNOVATION IMPLEMENTATION HAS CONTRIBUTED TO POSITIVE CHANGE WITHIN MATERNITY SERVICES WITH PARTICULAR FOCUS ON SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF WOMEN, BABIES, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT THE PREGNANCY JOURNEY

EVIDENCE OF HOW THE INDIVIDUAL INSPIRED OTHERS THROUGH ATTITUDE OR ENTHUSIASM AND THE IMPACT THIS HAS HAD ON THE TEAM AND/OR HOW OTHERS HAVE BEEN INFLUENCED BY THIS INDIVIDUAL

PROVIDE EVIDENCE OF BEING A CHAMPION FOR CHANGE: CULTURAL; ATTITUDE & BEHAVIOURAL WITHIN THE SERVICE THAT THEY WORK IN TO IMPROVE EXPERIENCES OR OUTCOMES FOR SERVICE USERS, STAFF & COLLEAGUES OR THOSE WORKING IN HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTES

EVIDENCE OF THE INDIVIDUAL CONSISTENTLY GOING ABOVE AND BEYOND FOR COLLEAGUES AND/OR WOMEN AND BABIES IN THEIR CARE WITHOUT SEEKING RECOGNITION – WHAT DOES THIS LOOK LIKE?