



## 2023 Children's HeartLink Founders Award Nomination Form

The purpose of the Founders Award, established in 2019, is to recognize individuals who demonstrate extraordinary dedication and contributions to the Children's HeartLink mission.

When a child is sick, there are no limits to the compassion people feel and the lengths they will go to in order to help that child. Children's HeartLink was created in 1969 when a young doctor serving in Vietnam asked his father, a Minnesota surgeon, to help three Vietnamese children with congenital heart disease. Minnesota has long been a world leader in heart surgery, medical advances and philanthropic giving. Two pioneers in the cardiac field were Dr. Joseph Kiser, and his partner, Dr. Frank Johnson (the father of the medic). These doctors and the larger Minnesota community stepped up to help foreign children suffering from congenital heart disease, setting in motion over the ensuing years a commitment to improve the lives of children who lack access to care.

Over time, our model evolved into a model that trains local providers. While our approach has changed over the years, our commitment to helping children with heart disease has never wavered. Children's HeartLink has thrived thanks to the many supporters who are dedicated to the mission of sharing their knowledge and skills with practitioners and partner hospitals in countries all over the world.

*Previous Award Winners include:* Joseph Dearani, M.D.; Sandra Staveski, Ph.D., RN, CDNO-AC; Glen Van Arsdell, M.D.; Jim Rice, Ph.D.; Steven Schwartz, M.D.; Peter Hesslein, M.D.

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Use the form below to nominate an individual for the Children's HeartLink Founders Award. The information submitted for this award will be used solely for the purpose of nominations.

**Submission deadline is May 26, 2023.**

### NOMINEE INFORMATION

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address Line One: \_\_\_\_\_

Address Line Two: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I am nominating the above individual for the Founders Award and I have discussed this nomination with the person.

Yes, I have discussed it with them.

No, I have not discussed it with them

Has this person volunteered with Children's HeartLink for at least 3 years: Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

## NOMINATION DETAILS

For the nomination to be considered complete, please include the following in your submission:

- Completed nomination form
- A letter of nomination, not exceeding 4 pages in length, detailing how the nominee meets/demonstrates the following award criteria through their volunteerism:
  1. Extraordinary humanitarian volunteerism: This could include work in training; mentoring of clinicians, fellow volunteers or staff; didactic or clinical training; development of educational and training resources; research contributions; leadership and/or extraordinary contributions to the advancement and effectiveness of Children's HeartLink
  2. Elevates the spirit of humanity through compassion, love, selflessness, ongoing commitment to save the lives of children with heart disease
  3. Delivers bold and visionary leadership and a commitment to the Children's HeartLink mission
- Make sure as the nominator you include your contact information on the letter for any questions.

Submit a nomination by May 26, 2023 to:  
Jenny Cook ([jenny@childrensheartlink.org](mailto:jenny@childrensheartlink.org))