

CFHA CoCM SIG 2026 Award – Diane Powers

Description of the Award:

This award recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to health care through their commitment and use of the Collaborative Care (CoCM) model. Nominees have demonstrated their service to the CoCM model through education; training; supervision or mentoring students and colleagues; association governance, serving on boards, or committees; scholarly efforts; teaching; practice or practice management; advocating for CoCM's best interests with state and federal lawmakers; and promoting the value of CoCM in the public eye. Nominees may be involved in one service area, many of the areas, or all service areas noted above. Further, nominees should embody and demonstrate values commensurate with CFHA's overall mission of promoting comprehensive and cost-effective models of healthcare to deliver integrated care.

Eligibility Criteria:

- **Any current CFHA member in good standing, except for current board members or SIG Leadership, is eligible for this award.**
- **Individuals and organizations* are eligible for this award.**

***At least one member of the organization must be a current CFHA member in good standing**

The AIMS Center is nominating Diane Powers for the CoCM SIG Award. She has shown outstanding commitment and tremendous accomplishments in advancing Collaborative Care.

Diane's impact has been instrumental in shaping the success of CoCM. Through the infrastructure she helped build, the strong partnerships she fostered, and the professional support systems she established, she created a foundation that enabled the implementation, growth, and long-term sustainability of this evidence-based integrated care model.

As current Co-Director of the AIMS Center and one of the creators 22 years ago of the AIMS Center Diane has devoted her career to expanding access to high-quality CoCM. She does this through education, implementation support, mentorship, and workforce development. Her influence extends across countless systems, clinics, consultants, staff, and implementation teams throughout the country. Throughout her leadership, teaching, and consultation, she has helped shape the national landscape of CoCM implementation.

Diane exemplifies servant leadership. She is an exceptional mentor who generously shares her expertise while empowering others to become leaders themselves. She has cultivated professional communities that foster collaboration, innovation, and continuous learning. Her ability to connect people, encourage emerging leaders and elevate others' work has strengthened the CoCM movement far beyond her own direct contributions; many CoCM leaders have been nurtured by her tutelage and/or influenced by her expertise.

Diane's commitment to advancing CoCM aligns with every aspect of this award's mission. She has supported training, implementation science and practice transformation, served through professional association leadership, mentored colleagues across disciplines, and consistently advocated for integrated behavioral health as a means of improving patient care.

Within CFHA, Diane played a key role in establishing and leading the CoCM Workgroup that ultimately became today's CoCM SIG. Her vision turned a group of passionate professionals into a lasting forum where clinicians, trainers, researchers, administrators and implementation leaders work together to move the field forward. The strength and ongoing success of the SIG reflect her leadership and commitment.

As Diane prepares for her retirement in 2027, there is no better time to recognize the legacy she has built. Her contributions have not only advanced CoCM but have also shaped the people and communities dedicated to carrying its mission forward. We nominate her for her service to CFHA, dedication to CoCM and impact on Integrated Healthcare. AIMS Center nominates Diane Powers for the CFHA CoCM SIG Award.

On a personal note, my first encounter with Diane perfectly reflects who she is as a leader. I met her at a CFHA conference during a session on providing consultation. We sat next to one another, and I excitedly chatted throughout the session, not realizing that I was talking to "the" Diane Powers, whose work I had admired. She never introduced herself by her accomplishments or titles. Instead, she engaged as a colleague, listened thoughtfully, and encouraged conversation. Afterward, I asked for her contact information, and for years I've jokingly referred to myself in emails as "Hi Diane, you may not remember me, but it's Monica, your seatmate". That simple introduction between us shows her humility and genuine concern for others. These qualities have made her a powerful leader and mentor.