

## 2014 Superstar Foundation Award Announcement Press Release

Baltimore, Maryland - The Superstar Foundation rewards direct service workers who achieve outcomes with the individuals and families by using data to help build and sustain transformational relationships. The Foundation has just opened its 7th annual Veronica Awards application and nomination process.

"We are thrilled with the evidence of impact that our applicants and awardees are demonstrating in the community of service. We are convinced this work is the catalyst for the evolution of human services across the country and the world. In the spirit of continuous improvement, we are also excited about the incremental changes we continue to make to our process to drive better and better candidates for the Veronica Awards," offers Stephen Butz, the President and Founder of the Foundation.

The awards process is conducted entirely online (<a href="http://www.superstarfoundation.org">http://www.superstarfoundation.org</a>). Direct Service Workers can apply directly or be nominated by their organization. Applicants use an online tool to submit both a written application and de-identified data that validates their claims and anecdotal evidence of success.

This year, for the first time, the awards will require that a written recommendation accompany the application or nomination. "We are working to ensure that each organization behind a nomination is really putting forth their best direct service worker, someone who truly outperforms their peers," says Superstar Foundation Board Member Dominique Bernardo. "Having reference materials as part of the process will continue to improve the quality of our overall pool of applicants." The Foundation will identify the best four applicants or nominees and reward them individually with a grant of \$5,000 each. More information and a link to the application are available online at <a href="http://www.superstarfoundation.org">http://www.superstarfoundation.org</a>.