

January 2012

Dear Friends:

Women Aware...

Transforming the emotional and economic future of people in transition through advocacy, education, information and referral.

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As part of the national celebration of Women's History Month, you are invited either as an individual, as a group or as a business to nominate a Siouxland woman for one of seven Women of Excellence Awards to be announced on Tuesday, March 27, 2012, 5:30 p.m. at the Sioux City Convention Center.

Think about the women you have involved in your organization or business. You may utilize volunteers in a number of capacities. You may have a female employee whom you know to be contributing in other capacities throughout the Siouxland community and exemplifies excellence in all she does. Every day we reap the benefit of "the extra measure" women take to achieve a goal they desire for the betterment of their community. It is the goal of the Women of Excellence committee to recognize and encourage such outstanding selflessness. Let this be the year you *recognize your outstanding volunteers, colleagues or employees!*

To nominate your candidate, please follow these guidelines and **send to Women Aware:**

- Nominees must be female residents, volunteers or employees in the greater Siouxland area. They must be at least 35 years of age as of January 1, 2012. Young Women of Excellence nominees must be between 22 and 40 years of age as of January 1, 2012.
- Individuals cannot apply, but must be nominated by a group or individual.
- Not eligible for nomination are: past recipients, current members of the Judges Selection Committee, awards judges and current members of the Women Aware Board of Directors.
- Please include one candid or portrait photograph of your nominee. Unsolicited materials such as portfolios, publications, etc., will not be reviewed and will disqualify the nominee.
- All nominations must be completed and postmarked no later than March 6, 2012.**
- A \$50 application fee must be sent with each nomination, along with an original and five copies of the completed nomination.** This \$50.00 fee includes the cost of the ticket to the event for the nominee.
- Nominees must be present at the awards dinner on Tuesday, March 27, 2012, 5:30 p.m. at the SC Convention Center. *Friends, families and colleagues are encouraged to accompany the nominee.*
- Selections by the judges are final and the names of the recipients are strictly confidential until announced at the banquet on March 27th.
- The nomination materials are the property of the Awards Planning Committee and will not be returned.

These awards are being offered through the sponsorship of **Women Aware**, a program for struggling heads of households and a United Way member agency. Please consider passing this information to others who might be interested in making a nomination of their own. **You may nominate more than one woman and you may re-nominate a previous nominee, but not a past recipient.** Additional forms may be obtained either by photocopying the form, contacting Women Aware or downloading a form from www.womenaware.org.

Please share in this year's celebration by nominating a Siouxland woman who has been influential in your life or whom you know to be influential in the lives of others in our community. By honoring these women we are not only expressing gratitude for their selfless acts but also inspiring others to strive for excellence in their own endeavors. If you have any questions, you may contact the Women Aware office or any of the Awards Planning Committee members.

Sincerely,

Ann Knutson, Women Aware Board President