



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS!

Michigan 2026 Older Adult of the Year

Deadline: Friday, March 6, 2026

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Aging, Community Living, and Supports is calling on agencies across the state to nominate a special volunteer for this year's Older Adult of the Year award.

This annual state tradition celebrates an older adult whose community has been enhanced through their active engagement, volunteerism and selfless acts of service to others. They are often the unsung heroes of our communities.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

The award winner will:

- ✓ Be honored and celebrated on Older Michigianians Day on May 13, 2026. This individual will have the option to receive the award virtually or in person.
- ✓ Receive an engraved, personalized plaque for display.
- ✓ Be recognized in a press release distributed to Michigan newspapers.

Eligible Nominees

- Are aged 60 or older.
- Have been nominated by an organization, not an individual.
- Are available to attend the May 13 event, virtually or in-person.
- While the nominee may be employed, it is their volunteer work that will be judged.

Judges will consider nominations that showcase a nominee at their very best. In this spirit, you are strongly encouraged to paint an interesting picture of your nominee through descriptive explanations of their volunteer activities, background, and character as well as their community impact. Nominee names and information will be kept confidential. Please note that nomination forms will not be returned. The winner will be chosen by April 27, 2026.

Follow These Simple Steps!

Questions and completed nomination forms (Parts I-IV, including a photo) should be directed to Shanna Hammond at hammonds9@michigan.gov. Please send the nomination form and scanned photograph as attachments. A confirmation email will be sent upon receipt.

2026 OLDER ADULT OF THE YEAR AWARD

Nomination Form is due on Friday, March 6, 2026

Part I. Print or Type

Volunteer Name	Age
Address (including city and zip code)	
Email Address	
Phone (including area code)	
Occupation (If retired, occupation prior to retirement)	

Part II. Print or Type

Name of Nominating Organization	
Name/Title of Nominator	
Address (including city and zip code)	
Email Address	
Phone (including area code)	

Part III. Please provide thoughtful and succinct responses to the following:

1. In 300 words or less, describe the volunteer service that is worthy of celebration and recognition.

2. Explain who has benefitted from or been impacted by the nominee's volunteerism, and how. What community need has been addressed? Please limit response to 300 words.

3. Describe at least three personal qualities or characteristics that make this person stand out in their volunteer role. Please limit response to 300 words.

4. In 100 words or less, summarize why your nominee is deserving of this award.

5. *Optional:* Provide any additional information that would be helpful in considering this nominee.

Part IV. Please include a photograph (scanned) of your nominee. Original photographs will not be returned.

Thank you!