

CRITERIA FOR A PSMIN CONGREGATIONAL AWARD
The Florence Iversen Kraft Award

1. This congregation makes a deliberate attempt to welcome and integrate persons with a serious mental illness and their families into the total life and work of the Church, without being obvious and setting them apart, by:
 - a. Being accepting, friendly, understanding and genuine.
 - b. Praying for those who have a mental illness the same way as for other illnesses.
 - c. Visiting and calling on the mentally ill person and by offering to help in little ways.
 - d. Offering support and love to the parents or family of the ill person, by inquiring about the relative's health as one would for anyone who was ill.
 - e. Listening and talking with the mentally ill person.

2. This congregation uses every opportunity to educate themselves and others about mental illness by:
 - a. Encouraging clergy, lay staff and members to learn about mental illness.
 - b. Raising awareness of mental illness in sermons, bulletins, and newsletters.
 - c. Adding books and other publications to the Church's library.
 - d. Becoming familiar with local mental health services and support groups.

3. This congregation offers its facilities and/or resources to those having serious mental illness and their families by:
 - a. Hosting a group of people from a local facility.
 - b. Sponsoring a support group for them and/or their families.
 - c. Sponsoring a social club or drop-in center.
 - d. Offering employment opportunities.

4. This congregation advocates for people with mental illness by:
 - a. Working with other churches and organizations, such as the Mental Health Association and the Alliance for the Mentally Ill.
 - b. Supporting efforts to obtain appropriate housing and jobs.
 - c. Not letting false, stigmatizing statements about mental illness go unchallenged.
 - d. Supporting adequate state and local budgets for mental health services.
 - e. Giving money for research into the causes and cure for mental illness.

5. This congregation undertakes a ministry to, ministry with, and ministry by persons with serious mental illness and their families. They are invited to serve as office bearers and on committees.

Please mail nominations to: PSMIN/PHEWA
100 Witherspoon St. Rm. 3226
Louisville, KY 40202-1396
Toll-free phone: 1(888) 728-7228 ext. 5800