

Hudson's Amy Sousa Chosen as Finalist for Nonprofit Leadership Excellence Award

courtesy of Fernando Martinez, Massachusetts Nonprofit Network

The Massachusetts Nonprofit Network has announced that Amy Sousa, PhD, CEO of the Guild for Human Services in Concord, Mass., has been selected as a finalist for the 2019 Nonprofit Excellence Award in the Leadership category.

The winners of the Nonprofit Excellence Awards will be announced at MNN's annual event, Nonprofit Awareness Day: A Celebration of Nonprofit Excellence presented by Citizens Bank, on June 3 at the Massachusetts State House.

"We are honored to recognize the important contributions of Amy and the 26 other Nonprofit Excellence Award finalists, and look forward to recognizing excellence in the state's robust and diverse nonprofit sector on Nonprofit Awareness Day," said Jim Klocke, CEO of MNN.

"I am humbled to receive this recognition from the Massachusetts Nonprofit Network," said Sousa. "To

me, this honor represents an acknowledgment of The Guild staff's dedication and commitment to the individuals we serve."

The Excellence Award in Leadership recognizes a nonprofit chief or senior executive who has an extraordinary record of organizational results and exemplifies strategic vision, passion, integrity, innovation, perseverance, and a collaborative



Hudson's Amy C. Sousa

Courtesy photo

spirit. In her two years as CEO of The Guild, Amy has increased the number of individuals served by the guild and launched several initiatives: extending The Guild School day by adding more than 200 hours of additional instruction per year; expanding programming to two new residences serving adults with disabilities; strengthening supervision for guild staff with support from the Yale Medical School; and enhancing program accessibility for students and adults with impaired vision.

The guild's mission is to educate, encourage, and empower individuals with intellectual disabilities so they may achieve their full potential. The guild serves more than 140 individuals diagnosed with mild to severe intellectual disabilities, autism, and behavioral and mental health challenges. Services are offered through the Guild School, which serves 85 students aged 6 to 22 years, and an adult residential program.

Nonprofit Awareness Day highlights the work of the nonprofit sector and raises awareness of important causes throughout

Massachusetts. During the ceremony, the Nonprofit Excellence Awards will be presented to one finalist in each of the following six categories: Advocacy, Collaboration, Innovation, Leadership, Small Nonprofit, and Young Professional.

This year, an independent panel of judges reviewed more than 100 nominations for the Nonprofit Excellence Awards. The 27 finalists range from large education providers to small human rights organizations and represent every region of Massachusetts.

In the weeks leading up to Nonprofit Awareness Day, nonprofits across the state are engaging in a social media campaign with the hashtag #MAKINGadifference to raise public awareness of nonprofits' important contributions to Massachusetts.