

# The 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Cross-Cultural Mental Health Conference

“Families: Fortifying Communities and Families”

PRESENTS

## “THE 7<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SOMA GANESAN SPIRIT OF HOPE AWARD”



**\*\*Win a \$1,000 donation to a mental health program of your choice  
And FREE registration to the Cross-Cultural Mental Health Conference\*\***

### Previous Spirit of Hope Award winners:

- ✚ Access Community through English (ACE) Program (2005)
- ✚ Tohio! African Youth Crime Prevention Video Project, Multicultural Family Centre (2006)
- ✚ Healthy Living Program for Farsi-Speakers, Canadian Mental Health Association (North & West Vancouver Branch) (2007)
- ✚ Frances MacQueen for her outstanding work with Vancouver Association for Survivors of Torture (VAST) (2008)
- ✚ Jim Siemens for his work at ISSofBC (2009)
- ✚ The Bridge Clinic for their dedication in offering specialized short-term, culturally-sensitive primary and mental health care to refugees (2010)

The Cross-Cultural Mental Health Conference is calling for submissions for the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Spirit of Hope Award. The goal of the Spirit of Hope Award is to recognize an individual, program, not-for-profit agency or public institution within BC that has made a significant impact on improving the mental health conditions of immigrants and refugees. Along with the award is a donation of \$1,000 to a Mental Health program of the award recipients' choice.

### **Who/how will nominations be reviewed?**

The Selection Committee, consisting of members of the Conference Planning Committee, will select the award recipient. The following selection factors are not exhaustive but do provide insight into elements the Award Selection Committee will be considering.

**Innovation:** Has the program/individual introduced certain innovations that have led to improving the mental health of immigrants and refugees? Could the program be considered a promising practice? What is innovative about the program or individuals approach? Does the program resemble a similar program in your community – is it one of a kind?

**Impact:** Broadly defined, what has been the positive impact of the individual, program or institution on the mental health of newcomers?

### **Who may be an award recipient?**

Mental Health support is broadly defined to include both the formal and informal mental health system – those that may be found within publicly funded institutions as well as those within, for instance, a not-for-profit immigrant serving agency. As such, an award recipient may represent:

- ✓ **an individual** who has developed a unique approach or perhaps designed a new curriculum within an academic institution, a church-based volunteer who has established an innovative collaborative support structure, someone within the legal system who has had an impact on how mental health newcomers are supported;
- ✓ **a program** – a unique treatment model or peer support program; or,
- ✓ **a not-for-profit agency or public institution**





**THE 7<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL**  
**SOMA GANESAN SPIRIT OF HOPE AWARD**

*“Striving to Improve Mental Health Supports  
To Immigrants and Refugees in BC”*

Application Form

DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011

**Applicant Contact Information (self-nominations are welcome)**

Nominator's name:

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Nominee's Name:

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Program (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

How long program has been in operation: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency/Institution (if applicable):

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Mailing Address:

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Telephone number (daytime):

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E-mail address:

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Consent by nominee accepted: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

If the Award is granted, what is the chosen designation for the \$1,000 donation?

In 500 words or less, tell us what has been the impact of your work on newcomers as an individual, program or agency? Why would you consider it innovative? How has it made a positive impact on immigrants and refugee? Please be specific.