The Dolores Chandra Excellence in Leadership Award was established in memory of Dolores Chandra, TMAA President 1998-99. Dolores was a native of Ireland. A registered nurse by education, she made her home in Chattanooga as the wife of Channappa Chandra, MD, and she was the mother of three sons. An outstanding community leader, she devoted her time to many worthwhile causes. At the time of her death, she had served on the AMA Alliance Board of Directors as AMA Foundation Chair and as a Director. The Dolores Chandra Excellence in Leadership Award is presented annually by the members of the TMAA House of Delegates to a TMAA member who demonstrates outstanding leadership in the alliance, their family and their community.

Nomination Guidelines

1. **Eligibility**
   Nominees & Recipients must be a member of the TMAA and have past and/or present service in the medical alliance.

   Nominees should plan to attend the TMAA Convention

   Any TMAA member may nominate 1 (one) or more individuals’
   Previous nominees can be re-nominated.

2. **Documentation Required**

   Detailed description of nominee as a leader: How this individual makes personal connections with people & how they make a difference through their leadership in the alliance, their family, and community involvement (civic & other volunteer organizations, church, etc.)

   Recent Photograph, Biographical, Personal Data Support information - newspaper clippings, letters of recommendations, etc.

3. **Submitting Application**

   Deadline for entry is noted on each year's form. Please send it to the TMAA President.
To be a valid entry, all documentation must be included and the application form signed by the individual making the nomination. Entries are presented to the Golden Gavel Club Selection Committee, who presents their nominee to the TMAA Board of Directors for approval.
4. Recipients

The winner is announced at the TMAA Annual Convention and the award is presented by the 'outgoing' TMAA President. All nominees are recognized.

The Dolores Chandra Award have been presented to:

Kathi Hall, TMAA President 2003-04, at the 2006 Annual Meeting
Milli Yium, TMAA President 2002-03, at the 2007 Annual Meeting
Annelle Bond, TMAA President 1996-97, at the 2008 Annual Meeting
Nancy Prater, TMAA President 1972-73, at the 2009 Annual Meeting
Dewdrop Rule, TMAA President 1980-81, at the 2010 Annual Meeting
Nora Lee, TMAA President 2014-15, at the 2011 Annual Meeting
Virginia Elrod, TMAA President 1979-80, at the 2012 Annual Meeting
Jo Terry, TMAA President 2005-06, at the 2013 Annual Meeting
Kristi Bonnevelet, TMAA President 2017-18 at the 2015 Annual Meeting
Robin Hutchins, TMAA President 2009-10 at the 2016 Annual Meeting
Sue Vegors, TMAA President 2006-07 at the 2018 Annual Meeting
Sarah Higgins, TMAA President 2007-08 at the 2020/21 Annual Meeting