

Susan P. Esper Award

2026 Nomination Form



The purpose of this award is to recognize someone who is actively involved in living and promoting mental and emotional wellness, and/or is in recovery from a substance use disorder and/or mental health challenge. The award designee(s) will be recognized at the Erie County Office of Drug & Alcohol Abuse/ Regional Recovery Hub's Erie County Recovery Celebration on 9/18/26 @ Booker T. Washington Center from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm.

This award is in memorial of Susan P. Esper, who was a guiding light for individuals in recovery within the Erie, PA community (and beyond). She worked in the behavioral health field and dedicated her life to helping those who were seeking a better way to live. Susan embodied grace and empathy, extending a hand wherever possible. For these reasons, we recognize a community member annually, who also carries on the memory and work that she started.

A person may be eligible if they have:

- A minimum recovery time of 3 years (although we will review submissions case- by- case if someone has less than 3 years of sobriety)
- Lived in Erie County, PA for at least 1 year
- No pending legal charges

Due to the principle of anonymity in recovery please be sure the person agrees to be nominated.

Please let them know they will have time to share their own views on this year's theme and recovery or say a few words. We would also prefer you are also present day of event if your nominating person is chosen, if possible.

Name of person you are nominating: _____

Complete work address: _____

Work Phone#: _____

Work email (if you have it): _____

Organizations where the person is active (if applicable): _____

Your name: _____

Your daytime Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Reason you are nominating this individual: _____

Please feel free to add additional info if you need more space (attach additional page if needed).

Please return completed form to: bcortes@eriecountypa.gov or www.RecovEriePA.org

Deadline for submission is **August 31, 2026.**