

THE CON HOGAN AWARD

for Creative,
Entrepreneurial,
Community Leadership

presented to the
Vermont Department of Health

Virtual Award Ceremony
December 9, 2020 at 12:00 p.m.

2020

PROGRAM



- Welcome: *Steve Dale, Former Human Services Manager*
- Reflections on Con Hogan: *Steve Dale and Jeannette Hogan*
- Remarks:
 - *Governor Phil Scott*
 - *Beth Stern, Office of Bernie Sanders*
- Presentation of the Con Hogan Award: *Paul Cillo, Public Assets Institute*
- Reflections from the Vermont Department of Health:
 - *Kelly Dougherty, Deputy Health Commissioner*
 - *Tracy Dolan, Deputy Health Commissioner*
 - *Mark Levine, MD, Commissioner of Health*
- Wrap-Up: *Steve Dale*

*This award will reward and offer incentive
to leaders in Vermont to continue and
broaden their important work on
behalf of Vermonters.
-Con Hogan*

AWARD COMMITTEE



- Will Belongia, Vermont Community Loan Fund
- Paul Cillo, Public Assets Institute
- Steve Dale, Former Human Services Manager
- Scott Johnson, DULCE Vermont
- Ellen Kahler, Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund
- Jane Kimble, Vermont Community Foundation
- Diana Wahle, Windham SE Supervisory Union

The Vermont Department of Health is entrusted with the most fundamental public good: to protect and promote the best physical and mental health of all Vermonters and safeguard the health of visitors to our state.

The COVID-19 pandemic is “a once-in-a-century event that simultaneously challenges and validates the Health Department and its mission,” said Health Commissioner Mark Levine, MD.

Vermont has set a national standard for rigorous, science-based, and data-driven policies and agile, effective practices. Although cases are climbing this fall, as they are across the country, the state’s public health agency continues to guide Vermont’s institutions and its people, steadily, rationally, and compassionately, to minimize contagion and maximize care.

Public health is the science and art of preventing disease, prolonging healthy life, and promoting physical and mental health. People with better health habits generally live longer, and those years are more likely to be free of disease and disability. But the central insight of public health is that people don’t just live in their bodies; they live in cities and towns, they work, study, and play in shared spaces, in social conditions, and in history. By collecting, synthesizing and analyzing data in general and specific populations and over time, the Health Department can prevent and reduce chronic disease and mobilize against acute threats. By ensuring the cleanliness and safety of public places and communities, we optimize the wellbeing of individuals and families.

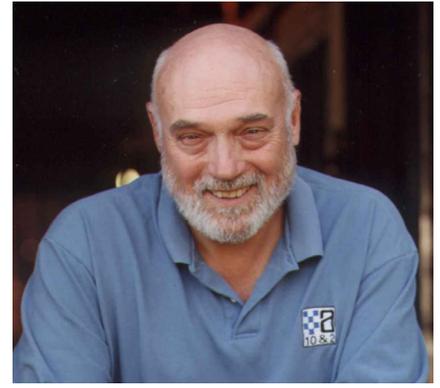
As part of the Agency of Human Services, the Health Department and its 500-plus employees work in concert with the Departments of Mental Health, Children and Families, Disabilities Aging and Independent Living, Corrections, and the Department of Vermont Health Access. The department’s 12 Local Health Offices provide health and wellness services—from flu shots to WIC to substance use prevention—for the people in their communities. They do so in close partnership with health care providers, schools, businesses, and community organizations.

Nationally, the Health Department collaborates with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Centers for Disease Control, the Surgeon General, and Vermont’s congressional delegation. “When COVID hit, we were in a good position because we could draw on existing relationships with diverse groups to help us do the work,” said Dr. Levine.

The Health Department’s Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Injury Prevention unit includes oversight of the Incident Command System (ICS) of the Health Operations Center. This system structures its public health response in coordination with the State Emergency Operation Center and streamlines policy, procedures, protocols and communication during any emergency, whether a flood, a blackout, or a pandemic. Readiness is all: “The Incident Command System went into place in February, before we even saw our first case,” says Levine. When the department’s staff had to move into new roles—as it always must in emergencies—the ICS helped smooth the process.

Particularly during the unprecedented challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vermont Department of Health exemplifies the criteria of the Con Hogan Award, as a whole and through each employee, by focusing on results, using data and measurement to mobilize action, working with people across diverse perspectives, taking risks in pursuit of its vision, and persisting through setbacks.





CORNELIUS "CON" HOGAN

Cornelius Hogan of Plainfield, Vermont, served as a Senior Fellow with the Center for the Study of Social Policy, a Senior Consultant for the Annie E. Casey Foundation, a faculty member of the National Governor's Association Center for Best Practice, a Director of Fletcher Allen Health Care, Chair of the National Advisory Committee for the Robert Wood Johnson initiative for Strengthening Families through health care access, a member of the Advisory Committee for the National Center for Children in Poverty, and as a consultant to the Children's Defense Fund in the fashioning of a program to cover all children for health insurance. He was Secretary of Vermont's Agency of Human Services from 1991 through 1999.

He received a master's degree in government administration from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. Hogan earned his undergraduate degree at Rutgers University. He was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from the University of Vermont, where he presented the commencement address for the graduating UVM Class of 2000.

He was a past president of the American Public Human Services Association and was a Director of the Permanent Fund for Vermont's Children. Earlier, Hogan had a 15-year career in corrections, including serving as Vermont's Corrections Commissioner. He was also president and CEO of a successful mid-sized corporation for a decade in the 1980s.

Hogan was active in a variety of efforts to improve the circumstances of children, families, and communities including: the closing of Vermont's only children's reform school; closing of Vermont's only training school for persons designated developmentally disabled; reducing the census at the Vermont State Hospital; implementing a statewide welfare reform program in 1994; and establishing outcomes throughout Vermont that have demonstrated measurable, significant, and sometimes dramatic improvement in the condition of Vermont's people, in areas such as child support collections, parentage establishment, child abuse, teen pregnancy, and early childhood health and nutrition programs.

He had been a resource to local, state, federal, and other nations, working in Ireland, Scotland, the Netherlands, the UK, Australia, Israel, Chile, Northern Ireland, and Norway in the work of finding common purpose and obtaining results in the well being of children, families and communities.

Hogan was a founding member of the Board of Trustees of the Vermont College of Fine Arts and a director of the Permanent Fund for Vermont's Children.

Con's most recent assignment was as a member of the five-person Green Mountain Care Board, charged with helping Vermont move toward a universal, unified health care system, in which all Vermonters can access affordable and appropriate health care at the appropriate time and in the appropriate setting.

He was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Green Mountain College in May 2012.

He authored or co-authored of many books, including: *Vermont Communities Count: Using Results to Strengthen Services for Families and Children*, *At the Crossroads: The Future of Health Care in Vermont*, *Gridlock: The Unhealthy Politics of Health Care in Vermont* and *Outcomes: Reframing Responsibility for Well-Being*, and three books of short stories: *Met Along the Way: Short Stories About People in Vermont*, *Also Met Along the Way* and *Finally Met Along the Way*.



THE CON HOGAN AWARD

for Creative, Entrepreneurial,
Community Leadership

Recognizing Vermonters whose work advances the public good by:

- **Focusing on Results**
- **Taking Risks in Pursuit of a Vision**
- **Working with People Across Diverse Perspectives**
- **Persisting through Setbacks**

Con Hogan was an important figure in Vermont. From his work in the public, nonprofit, and private for-profit sectors, he exemplified the kind of thinking and leadership that Vermont needs as we address the challenges of a new century. Con's down-to-earth management approach was backed by both sophisticated and tested theory and a nuts-and-bolts practicality.

Whether the focus was corrections, child well-being or health care, Con served his state by working to understand the fundamentals of the current situation, finding experts who could educate him about what he didn't know, setting a vision for what's possible, and getting to work to make that vision reality. Throughout this process, he kept his eye on whether his project was producing the desired results. If not, he looked for another way to get the results.

The Con Hogan Award intends to recognize Con's life work and commitment by encouraging and rewarding leaders who share his vision of a better Vermont—one that places the highest value on the public good—and who seize the responsibility for making that vision real.

Characteristics of Award Recipients

Given the award is intended for individuals who share Con Hogan's vision and commitment, winners will have demonstrated the following characteristics:

- **Track record of making a difference** in moving Vermont to work better for all Vermonters. This may be in any arena serving the public good.

- **Focus on results.** A commitment to using data and measurement, monitoring a plan of action and making adjustments along the way.
- **Community connection.** The ability to bring people together with visible results in a community, region or the state.
- **Generosity.** Willingness to mentor and partner with others and to give more than to receive.
- **Enthusiasm.** A passion for making Vermont a better place and the skill and perseverance to take concrete steps in doing so.

The honoree must be an individual who is a Vermont resident and has not previously received the award. Although there is no specific age requirement, the award is intended for someone with a record of success who is continuing to act toward making a positive difference.

Selection Process

- **Open Process:** Nominations are accepted through an open process using a widely circulated web-based form. The nominator must provide the names and contact information for two other individuals who are seconding the nomination. Individuals may not nominate themselves. Nominations received by the deadline will be collated by the Vermont Community Foundation, reviewed by the Selection Committee for finalists, and shared with the Hogan family for comments.
- **Selection Committee:** Recipients will be selected by a committee consisting of individuals who represent a broad range of activities, including: health and human services, the arts, government service, early care and education, agriculture, and civic duty.

ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORTERS

- ▶ Addison Consulting, LLC
- Annie E. Casey Foundation
- Balance Team, Inc.
- Ben & Jerry's Foundation
- Center for the Study of Social Policy
- Community National Bank
- Fiscal Policy Studies Institute
- Forward Philanthropy
- High Meadows Fund
- Johnson Family Foundation
- Lighthouse Evaluation
- National Life Group
- Northwest Counseling & Support Services, Inc.
- Let's Grow Kids
- Results Leadership Group, LLC
- Turrell Fund
- Tulgey Wood Foundation
- Vermont College of Fine Arts
- Vermont Community Foundation
- Vermont Program for Quality in Healthcare
- Windham Foundation

INDIVIDUAL SUPPORTERS

- ▶ Alissa Auerbach
- Jan K. Carney
- Paul Cillo
- Hal & Shelley Cohen
- Stuart & Lucy Comstock-Gay
- Steve Dale
- Lauren-Glenn Davitian & Mark Johnson
- Michael & Sylvia Davis
- Howard Dean & Judith Steinberg
- Ralph B. Dell* & Karen Hein
- Charlie Dickerson
- Michael Donofrio
- James Doran & Deborah Richter
- James & Paula* Duncan
- Frank Farrow
- Eddie Gale
- Rebecca Gonyea
- Deb & Wayne Granquist
- David & Joan Grubin
- Con* & Jeannette Hogan
- Michael Hogan
- Breana Holmes
- David & Rebecca Hornbeck
- Donna E. Jerry
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- Richard W. Thurston
- Heidi Tringe
- Diana Wahle & John Warren
- Peter F. & Katherine K. Watson
- Linda Wheatley
- Richard & Kathy White
- David & Deborah Yacovone
- Christine Zachai

**deceased*

TO MAKE A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION

- ▶ **Make Checks Payable To: Vermont Community Foundation/Con Hogan Award**

**Vermont Community Foundation
3 Court Street
Middlebury, VT 05753**

**For inquiries, contact Jane Kimble
(802) 388-3355 ext. 286 or jkimble@vermontcf.org**



SAVE THE DATE

- ▶ **The deadline for nominations for the 2021 award is Thursday, June 24, 2021, 5:00 p.m.**

For information, check vermontcf.org/ConHoganAward