Award
Vince Hutchins Leadership Award
Description
In 1998, AMCHP launched what was then called the "AMCHP Leadership Award" to recognize outstanding individuals, living or deceased, whose work has contributed to significant societal changes that have resulted in improvements in the health of American families and their various members. The first honoree, former First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, is exemplary of the stature of Leadership Award recipients. In 2001, AMCHP renamed the Leadership Award for Dr. Vince Hutchins, a beloved national leader and life-long advocate for children's health. During fifteen years as director of the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Dr. Hutchins expanded the federal government's commitment to women, children, youth, and families. He also led the development of new initiatives for children and families such as the Healthy Mothers and Healthy Babies Coalition. In honor of Vince Hutchins, this award continues to recognize leadership in promoting a society responsive to the needs of women, children, youth, and families.
Criteria
Nominees for the Vince Hutchins Leadership Award must meet the following criteria: ▪ Be a recognized national leader, living or deceased, with a long record of significant contributions to society, including state and federal levels of government, that improve the status of the maternal and child health community. ▪ Demonstrate accomplishments that advance, directly or indirectly, the health of American women, children, youth, and families, including those with special health care needs.
Selection Process
One award will be made annually from a pool of nominations solicited nationwide. AMCHP will issue a call for award nominations via AMCHP Pulse, Member Briefs, the AMCHP website, and blast emails to all AMCHP contacts approximately six months prior to the Annual Conference. Nominations will close and all materials must be submitted approximately five months prior to the Annual Conference. The Governance Committee reviews all nominations and submits a single recommendation for consideration by the Board of Directors. Nominees are notified of the final status of their submission approximately three months prior to the Annual Conference. The Vince Hutchins Leadership Award is awarded during the AMCHP Annual Conference. This award may not be awarded annually.
Special Travel Funding
The awardee will receive full conference registration (in-person). This award does not currently cover travel to attend the AMCHP Conference to accept the award in person.

Prior Awardees
2026 Laura Kavanagh 2025 Dr. Sabina Khan, PhD, OTD, OTR/L 2024 Omare Jimmerson, MPH 2023 Dr. Emily Naiser, PhD, MPH 2022 Dr. Eugene R. Declercq, BS, MBA, MS, PhD 2021 Michele Lawler, MS, RD 2020 Woodie Kessel, MD, MPH 2019 RADM Wanda Barfield, MD MPH FAAP 2018 Maria Nardella, MA, RD, CD 2017 Lewis Margolis, MD MPH 2015 Bonnie Strickland, PHD 2014 Dr. Maxine Hayes 2013 Mrs. Michelle Obama 2012 John Rossetti, DDS MPH 2011 Jennifer Howse, PhD 2009 Senator Edward “Ted” Kennedy 2008 Peter Van Dyck, MD MPH 2005 Marian Wright Edelman 2002 Senator Tom Harkin 2000 David Satcher, MD MPH 1998 Hillary Rodham Clinton