ZERO HARM
Leadership Award

2025 Resources and Metrics Guide

The Zero Harm Leadership Award recognizes and celebrates leaders who strive for Zero Harm at every level of their organization. Past recipients of this award are leaders that model excellence in promoting a high reliability culture in their organizations. Candidates are nominated locally and nominations are reviewed and scored by outside reviewers (Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) and Memorial Hermann Health System).

These awards are rooted in SCHA's Zero Harm Blueprint. Based on the American College of Healthcare Executives and the IHI/NPSF Lucian Leape Institute's "Leading a Culture of Safety: A Blueprint for Success". These awards are based on the leadership benchmarks established in this white paper as essential on the journey to high reliability but are often at least one step removed from clinical practice. The six domains are:

VISION FOR SAFETY

Commit to develop, communicate and execute an organizational vision of zero harm to patients, families, and the workforce.

TRUST AND RESPECT

Establish organizational behaviors that lead to trust in leadership and respect and inclusion throughout the organization regardless of rank, role or discipline.

BOARD ENGAGEMENT

Develop and engage your board so that it has clear competencies, focus and accountability regarding safety culture.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Educate and develop leaders at all levels of the organization who embody organizational principles and values of safety culture.

JUST CULTURE

Build a culture in which all leaders and the workforce understand basic principles of patient safety science, and encourage the reporting of errors, lapses, near misses and adverse events.

BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

Create one set of behavior expectations that apply to every individual in the organization and encompass the mission, vision and values of the organization.

For more information, please visit https://www.zeroharmsc.org

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