Call for Nominations: Charles Benefield Award, 2015

The LMI Institute’s Board of Directors requests nominations for the Charles Benefield Award. The award recognizes professionals demonstrating outstanding leadership in advancing the art and science of labor market information (LMI). Nominations are welcome from anyone working in the labor market information (LMI) field.

Background

The Charles Benefield Award is conferred during the LMI Institute Annual Forum. Benefield was a tireless advocate for improving data quality and advancing the LMI field. His career at the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) began when the agency had oversight of federal statistical programs. When oversight was transferred to the Bureau of Labor Statistics in the 1970’s, he continued to be a voice for statistical programs’ value and importance within ETA. His efforts were instrumental in obtaining financial support for the Occupational Employment Statistics and projections programs. Further, his efforts played a large role in the creation of the LMI Institute, initially established as an ETA-funded consortium of states in 1994. To honor his vision and acknowledge today’s champions of advancing the LMI field, the LMI Institute created the award after Benefield’s death.

Recent recipients include:

- Jacqueline Keener, Acting Director, Labor & Economic Analysis Division, North Carolina Department of Commerce
- Alexandra Hall, LMI Director, Colorado Department of Labor & Employment
- George Foster, Economics Manager, Bureau of Labor Market Statistics, Florida Department of Economic Opportunity
- Bonnie Graybill, Deputy Division Chief, Labor Market Information Division, California Employment Development Department – retired
- Bill Niblack, LMI Director, Missouri Economic Research and Information Center (MERIC), Missouri Department of Economic Development

Nomination instructions

Nominations are encouraged at all staff levels, and are not limited to staff of state LMI agencies. Nominees should have significant experience in LMI, with a demonstrated impact on their state and the national LMI system. Candidates’ impact might be evidenced by success building the technical skills of their own staff or through strong outreach to data users and other states’ LMI agencies, for example.

For consideration, provide the nominee’s name and full contact information (address, phone, fax, email) and a one-page letter of recommendation explaining how the individual has contributed to the advancement of the art and science of LMI. Nominations must be submitted by email no later than Friday, April 17, 2015 and should be sent to Haden Springer at hspringer@crec.net. The final selection of a recipient will be made by a committee of LMI Institute board members.