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## The Canadian Alliance on Mental Illness and Mental Health Proudly Announces this year's Champions of Mental Health

(Ottawa, Ontario) April 20, 2012, Today, the Canadian Alliance on Mental Illness and Mental Health (CAMIMH) is proud to announce the winners of the tenth annual national Champions of Mental Health Awards.

This year's winners in each of the five categories are listed below:

Community Individual: Michael Landsberg, TSN Broadcaster

Community Organization: Cardinal Newman Peer Mentors, Stoney Creek, Ontario

Public Sector Individual: Senator W. David Angus, Q.C., Ad. E.

Private Sector Individual: Scott Chisholm, founder of the Collateral Damage Project

Researcher: Dr Trang Dao, psychiatric researcher and advocate for the mentally ill

"This year's list of Champions is an outstanding group of remarkable individuals and organizations and we at CAMIMH are delighted to recognize their achievements," said Dr. Karen Cohen, MIAW 2012 chairperson. "We had a record number of extremely strong nominees this year, making decisions difficult. This year's Champions of Mental Health were chosen from among forty highly qualified individuals and organizations, all of whom have made very meaningful contributions to Canada's mental health."

"All Canadians can be proud of what our Champions have done to advance the cause of mental health in this country," continues Cohen. "The plain reality is that one in five of us will experience a mental disorder in a given year, which means these are issues that touch the lives of the vast majority of Canadian families. CAMIMH's *Champions Awards* is a flagship initiative that recognizes outstanding contributions to mental health and mental wellness in Canada."

2012 marks the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of CAMIMH's Champions Awards, held this year in Ottawa, at the Château Laurier on May 7<sup>th</sup>, during Mental Health Week. The Champions of Mental Health Awards are made possible through the generous support of our Presenting Sponsor, Bell Canada, and in addition, the generous support of RBC and Janssen. For more information, please visit <a href="http://www.miaw.ca/en/awards/overview.aspx">http://www.miaw.ca/en/awards/overview.aspx</a>.

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Established in 1998, the Canadian Alliance on Mental Illness and Mental Health (CAMIMH) is an alliance of mental health organizations comprised of health care providers and organizations representing persons with mental illness and their families and caregivers. CAMIMH's mandate is to ensure that mental health is placed on the national agenda so that persons with a lived experience of mental illness and their families receive appropriate access to care and support.

For more information or to schedule an interview, please contact: Kalene Tilson, Tel.: 613-233-8906 Email: champions@miaw.ca