This award, named in honor of the first recipient, Dr. Dorothy I. Height, will be given to an individual in recognition of outstanding national service in the promotion of healthy lifestyles in minority and medically underserved communities. Exceptional leadership in, and dedication to, public service, volunteerism, and mentoring will be given special consideration in the selection process. The honoree, chosen by a nationally prominent jury, will be presented on Friday April 21, 2006. A specially commissioned sculpture by internationally renowned artist and sculptress Tina Allen will be presented as well as a $2,000 cash contribution to a chosen institution or charity in the name of the honoree will be made.

Past recipients of this award include:
Dr. Dorothy I. Height
Congressman John Lewis
Chief Wilma P. Mankiller
Dr. Gilbert H. Friedell
Dr. Byllye Y. Avery

Dr. Height was a recipient of a Congressional Gold Medal for her tireless effort as an advocate for equality, social justice and human rights.