



TULIP Award

TULIP Awards
for outstanding individuals
June 2024

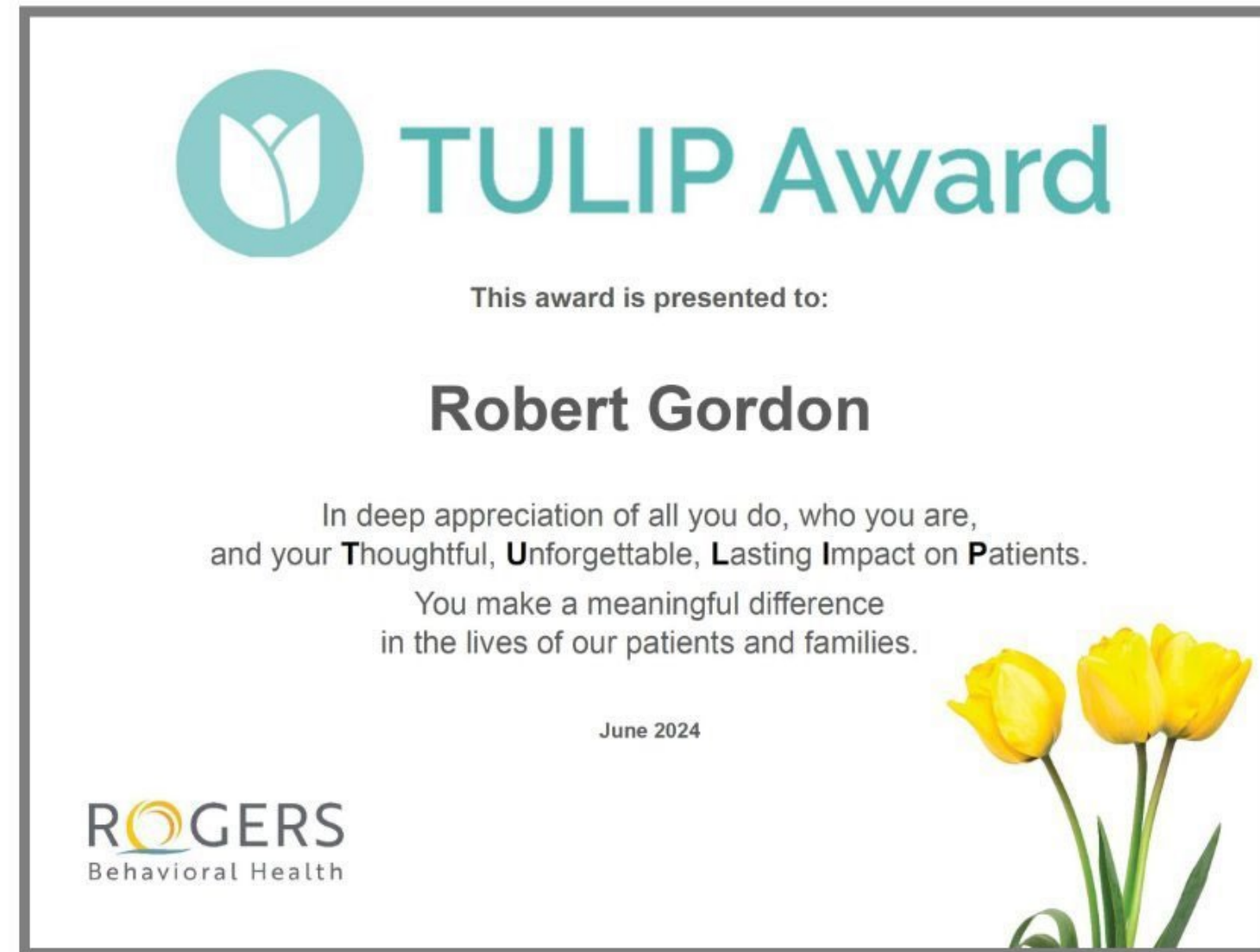
ROGERS
Behavioral Health



About the **TULIP Award**

- Rogers Leadership created the TULIP Award to recognize outstanding individuals who make a difference with our patients and their loved ones.
- TULIP stands for Thoughtful, Unforgettable, Lasting Impact on Patients.
- Honorees exemplify the following characteristics:
 - Goes out of their way to be considerate and respectful of needs
 - Demonstrates kindness and compassion that will always be remembered
 - Possesses exceptional skills to ensure a life-changing experience

Congratulations to our TULIP Award winner! Robert Gordon, therapist, San Diego



WINNER: Robert Gordon, therapist, San Diego

“Robert was an absolutely incredible therapist and behavior specialist. **I truly believe the care I received at Rogers saved my life, and Robert was a huge part of that.** He was kind, validating, and personable. **I always felt like he heard me and genuinely cared about me.** He encouraged me to make the necessary changes to have a better life, even when those changes were extremely hard, and progress felt slow. **Robert was a steadfast source of support, hope, and perspective.**

He helped me through the darkest period of my life. I feel so much more like myself and feel optimistic and hopeful in a way I never thought I would be able to again. I work in the mental health field, so I have a great appreciation for how challenging Robert's job is, and **he handles it with grace and positivity.** Like Rogers as a whole, Robert really emphasizes the ‘active ingredients’ of evidence-based treatment, and it's clear how well it works.

Thank you to Rogers, and especially to Robert. I can't say it enough: thank you.”

Celebrating Robert

Leadership Comments




Congratulate our TULIP Award Honoree!
Standing for **Thoughtful, Unforgettable, Lasting Impact on a Patient**, the TULIP Award honors our compassionate and skilled mental health technicians (MHTs), therapists and experiential therapists, behavioral specialists (BSs), dieticians, education specialists, milieu specialists, and Admissions intake specialists.



A TULIP banner will be hung in his work area.



Honorable Mention: Lainey Stiefvater, behavioral specialist, San Diego

Excerpts from a patient's nomination:

- I have infinite words to say about how wonderful of a provider and human Lainey is.
- She is both a cheerleader and a drill sergeant, an empathizer and a pusher, a team player and a strong support for each individual patient, a behavioral specialist and a human being.
- I saw the care, attentiveness, and warmth she gave to each of her patients, no matter how busy she was at the time.
- She stuck by me through a lot of difficult times and a lot of ups and downs, without blinking an eye.
- Lainey's knowledge, kindness, authenticity, and unwavering support for my well-being played a strong role in where I am today.
- If I could still have Lainey as my mental health provider, I would in a heartbeat. I take comfort in knowing that she is undoubtedly helping countless of others who need it more than I do now.



Honorable Mention: Sofija Garcevic, behavioral specialist, L.A.



Nominated by a patient:

“Sofija Garcevic broke the mold when she became a behavioral specialist. She is just so good at what she does and was so dedicated to helping me build a raft to navigate the raging waters of OCD. She steadfastly encouraged me to say yes to my exposures by reminding me that it was actually a yes to me becoming a stronger, healthier person.

There were many laughs we shared along the way as well, which taught me to benefit from the levity that can be found in this process. Sofija deserves tons of recognition for what she brings to Rogers.”



Honorable Mention: Brian Michalko, therapist, L.A.

Nominated by a patient:

“From the moment Brian Michalko introduced himself to me as my Rogers therapist, **I trusted him because he was so immediately generous with his positive energy and love for helping people find the best in themselves through confronting their OCD.** While avoiding reassurance, he constantly encouraged me to develop my self-assurance by challenging me to be the actual driving force in my own treatment.

I'll never forget on one of the first days I was at Rogers, he told me, my husband, and my parents he could already see in me the potential to return to my acting work--even being fine taking care of myself while traveling to another location to do it. **His faith in me propped me up the whole time I was at Rogers and is part of the reason I am enjoying recovery today. Brian embodies the best that Rogers can be.”**



Honorable Mention: Emily Vynych, therapist, Denver



Nominated by a patient:

“She remembered that I was having a bad day and followed up later in the day to see how I was doing.”

She also remembered that my daughter was having a baby and followed up to see if she had been born and about her named, even though she is not my therapist.”



Congratulations to our Service Area A nominees

Rachel Dennis, therapist, Denver

Emma Esposito, behavioral specialist, Los Angeles

Sofija Garcevic, behavioral specialist, Los Angeles

Robert Gordon, therapist, San Diego

Brian Michalko, therapist, Los Angeles

Jade Romero, behavioral specialist, Denver

Lainey Stiefvater, behavioral specialist, San Diego

Emily Vynych, therapist, Denver



TULIP Award

Thank you

Thank you to all our patients and team members who took the time to nominate a member of our patient care team.

Two more presentations are planned in June, and the next system-wide quarterly winner will be celebrated this fall.

Consider nominating a colleague by searching TULIP Award on [Rogersbh.org](https://rogersbh.org) [or click here.](#)



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