

*Highlights of the*  
**2015 MISSOURI  
MENTAL HEALTH CHAMPIONS**

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**AWARDS CEREMONY AND BANQUET**



***Changing Attitudes, Building Hope***



## **2015 Missouri Mental Health Champions Awards Ceremony and Banquet**

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The presentation of annual awards to such deserving individuals highlighted the Mental Health Champions' Banquet, held on Tuesday evening, June 9, 2015, at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Jefferson City.

**More than 400 individuals attended!**



## 2015 Missouri Mental Health Champions Awards Ceremony and Banquet



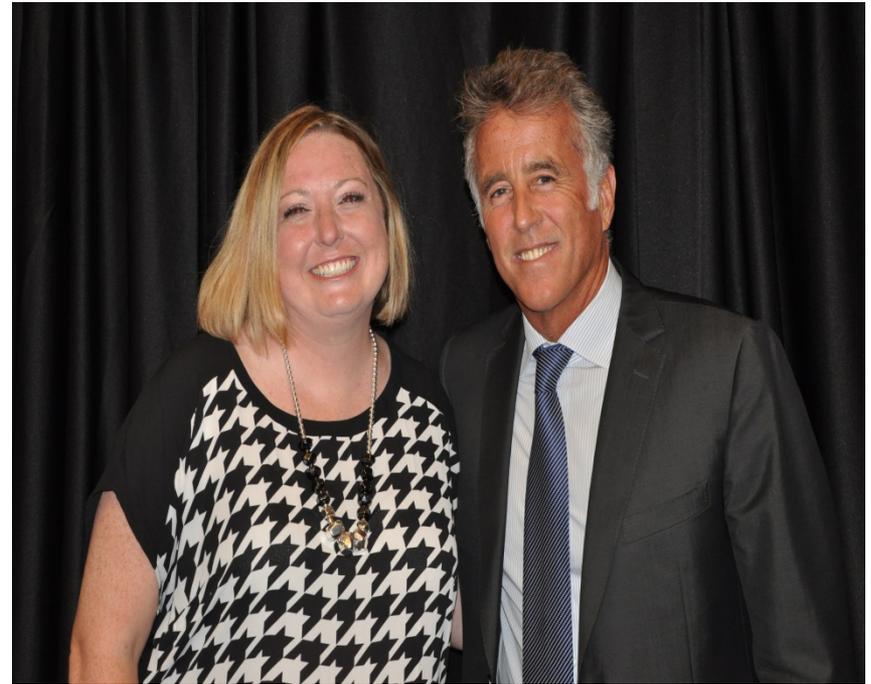
### **KATE CERTAIN**

- Resides in Kansas City, MO
- ***A Light in the Tunnel of Mental Illness***, erasing stigma at every turn, speaking boldly about her bipolar disorder and other mental health diagnoses.



# 2015 Missouri Mental Health Champions Awards Ceremony and Banquet

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## 2015 Missouri Mental Health Champions Awards Ceremony and Banquet



*“I just hope that everyone out there that is struggling knows that there are ways to get better, and again, I can’t tell you how humbled I am to be in a room full of all of you who really do this, and help folks just like me every day.”*



## 2015 Missouri Mental Health Champions Awards Ceremony and Banquet

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### **CORY MCMAHON**

- Resides in Columbia, MO
- ***Shaping the Future of Public Policy for Persons with Disabilities*** through his involvement at multiple levels of the State's mental health system.



# 2015 Missouri Mental Health Champions Awards Ceremony and Banquet





## 2015 Missouri Mental Health Champions Awards Ceremony and Banquet



*“Representative Sue Allen is here. I completed an internship in her office that allowed me to cultivate relationships that were necessary to help make improvements to the policies and procedures for individuals with developmental disabilities.”*



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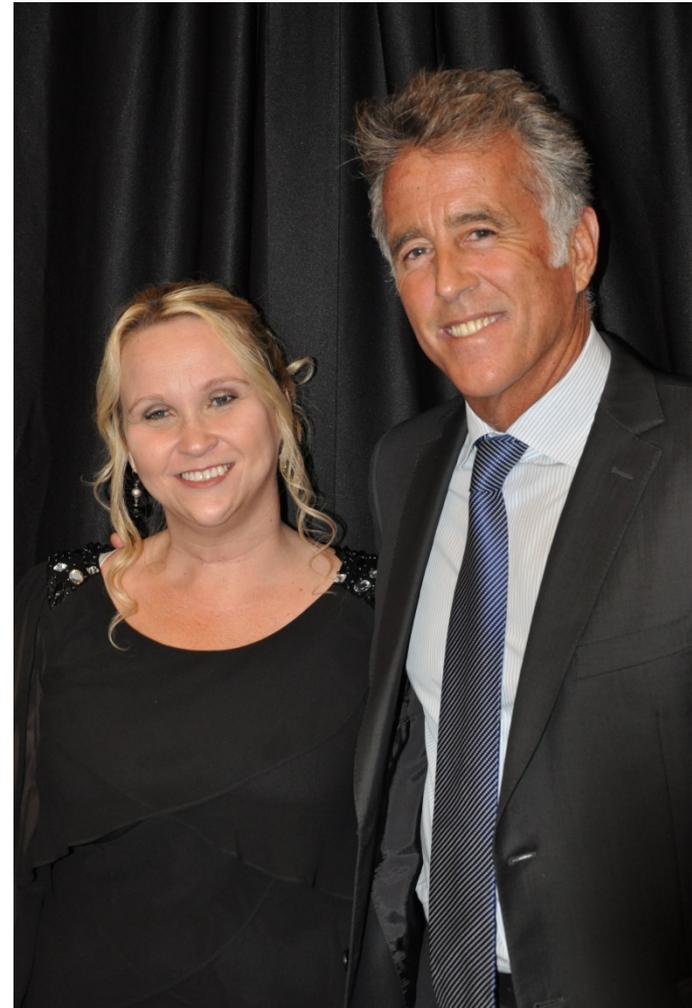


### CHRISTINE MCDONALD

- Resides in St. Charles, and works in Kansas City, MO
- *Inspires Others on Their Recovery Journey* with her story of resolve and courage, and daily extends a helping hand to others.



# 2015 Missouri Mental Health Champions Awards Ceremony and Banquet





## 2015 Missouri Mental Health Champions Awards Ceremony and Banquet



*“You know addiction is a disease and we do recover, and I will continue to be one of the most anonymous people that I know – because as long as we stay in the church basement and say we’re anonymous, we’re never going to break the barriers of how people look at people with the disease of addiction. We do recover, we do move forward, we can become very productive members of our community that have the ability to make change for those that will walk behind us.”*



# 2015 Missouri Mental Health Champions Awards Ceremony and Banquet

## 2015 AWARD NOMINEES





## 2015 Missouri Mental Health Champions Awards Ceremony and Banquet

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The banquet also included a **Silent Auction**, where all proceeds directly benefit the work of the Missouri Mental Health Foundation.

- 73 Individual and Group Donors generously provided 116 Silent Auction Items including travel packages across Missouri, sporting event tickets, jewelry, home décor, quilts, etc.

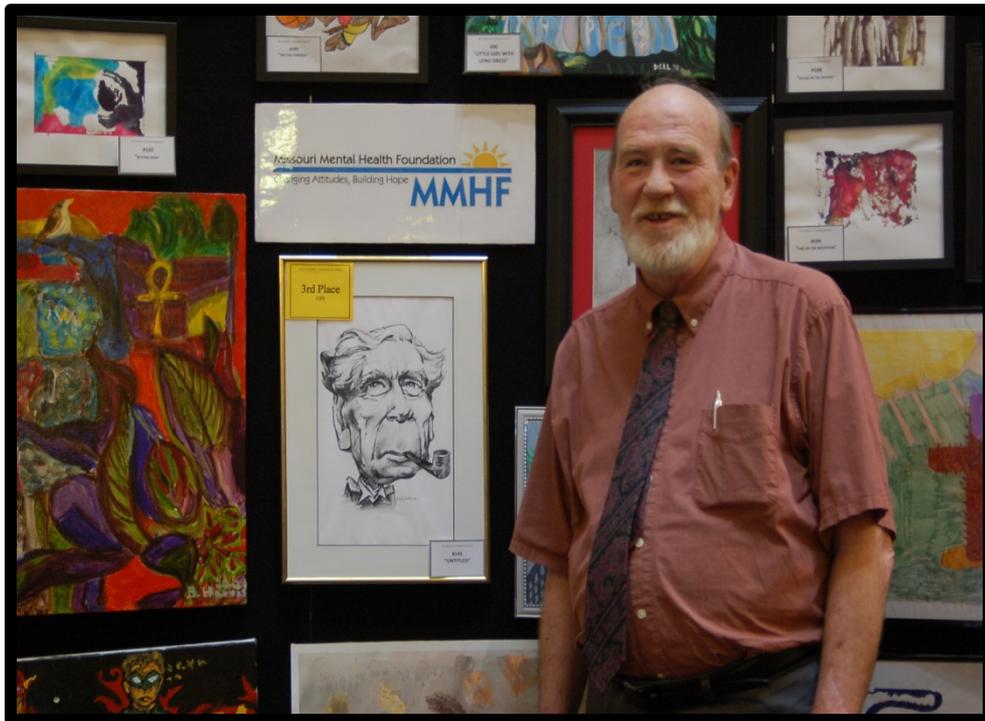


***\$7,500 income from  
the Silent Auction  
Donations***



# 2015 Missouri Mental Health Champions Awards Ceremony and Banquet

Director's Creativity Showcase - 29 pieces of consumer artwork were sold





## **2015 Missouri Mental Health Champions Awards Ceremony and Banquet**

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### **SPONSORS & DONATIONS**

- **22 Event Sponsors**
  - Includes 7 first-time sponsors for the 2015 banquet
  - \$16,000 event sponsorship donations
- **General Donations to MMHF**
  - \$1,700 personal donations made to the Missouri Mental Health Foundation



# 2015 Missouri Mental Health Champions Awards Ceremony and Banquet

## 2015 BANQUET SPONSORS

### GOLD LEVEL SPONSOR

- *Alkermes*

### SILVER LEVEL SPONSORS

- *Abilities First*
- *Ameren Missouri*
- *Care Management Tech.*
- *Cerner*
- *Gamble & Schlemeier Governmental Consultants*
- *Independence Center*
- *KWOS Radio*
- *KRCG TV*
- *MACDDS*
- *MARF*

### SILVER LEVEL SPONSORS (cont.)

- *Missouri Hospital Association*
- *Missouri Institute for Mental Health*
- *Missouri Coalition for Community Behavioral Healthcare*
- *Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council*
- *Netsmart*
- *Pathways Community Health/Compass Health Network*
- *Preferred Family Healthcare*
- *Qualifacts Systems, Inc.*
- *SSM Behavioral Health*
- *State Farm – Brad Hutchison*
- *Truman Medical Center Behavioral Health*



# 2015 Missouri Mental Health Champions Awards Ceremony and Banquet



## ***PROGRAM***

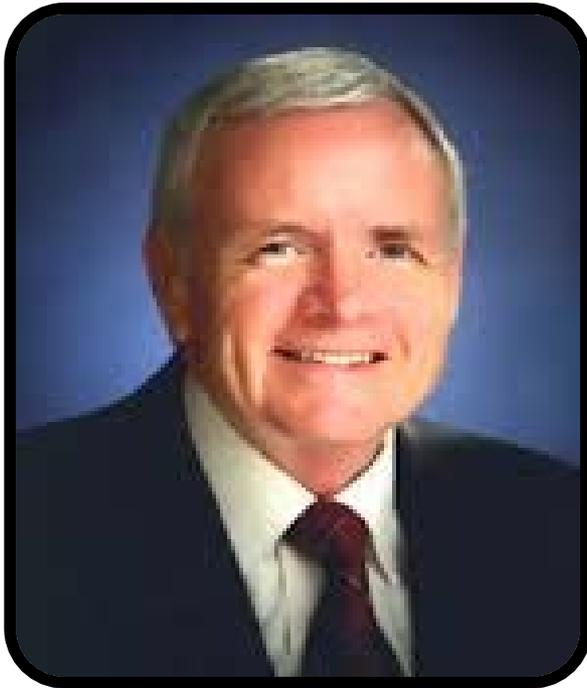
***2015 MENTAL HEALTH CHAMPIONS' BANQUET***



# 2015 Missouri Mental Health Champions Awards Ceremony and Banquet

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## TRIBUTE TO DR. KEITH SCHAFER

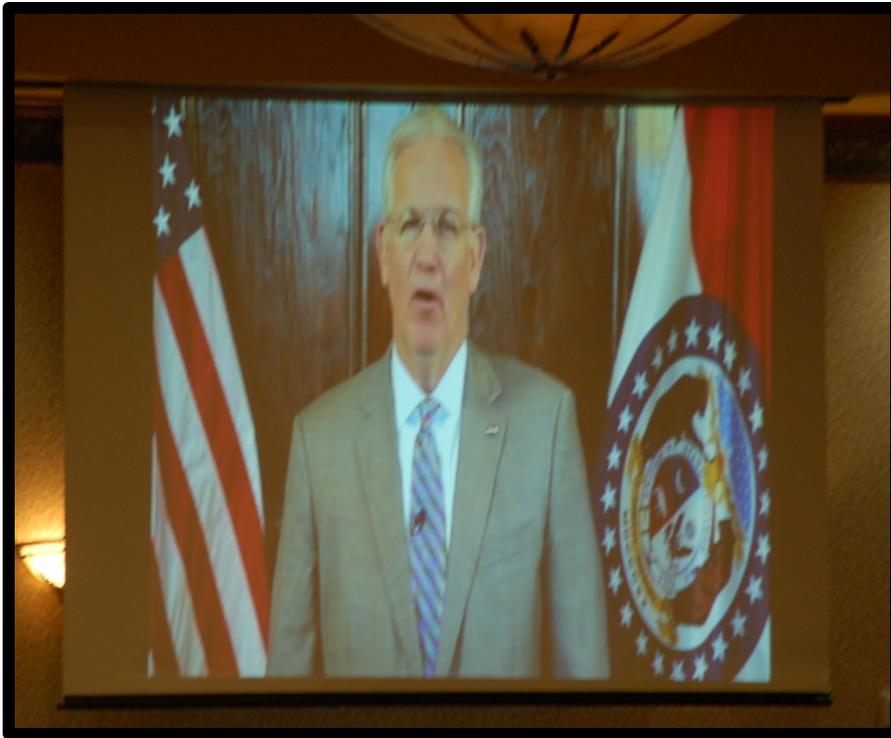




## 2015 Missouri Mental Health Champions Awards Ceremony and Banquet

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### Governor Jay Nixon's Video Tribute to Dr. Keith Schafer



“Dr. Schafer’s vision and leadership have made a real, lasting, positive difference for thousands of Missouri families.

“Much of the progress we’ve made is a direct result of Dr. Schafer’s outstanding, compassionate work.”



# 2015 Missouri Mental Health Champions Awards Ceremony and Banquet

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*Representative Mike  
Bernskoetter*



*Missouri Mental Health  
Foundation – Board of Directors  
and Staff*





# 2015 Missouri Mental Health Champions Awards Ceremony and Banquet

## Musical Entertainment – *The Prayer*

Sung by Dominique Bennett and Vonda Powell





## 2015 Missouri Mental Health Champions Awards Ceremony and Banquet

### Keynote Speaker – Christopher Kennedy Lawford



Christopher Kennedy Lawford with the 2015 Mental Health Champions



*“Addiction is arguably the most media-covered disease in America, yet the silence of recovery is deafening.”*



## 2015 Missouri Mental Health Champions Awards Ceremony and Banquet



*“It’s time for the recovery community to stand up and say loudly and clearly that we don’t treat other diseases, like diabetes or cancer, as moral failures and we shouldn’t treat mental illness and the disease of addiction that way either.”*

*“Addiction is a brain disorder – not just bad behavior and bad choices.”*

**Quotes by: Christopher Kennedy Lawford**



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“Despite all the research and science, the public is still conflicted on disease versus weakness. There is still a feeling out there that we are culpable. That even though nobody would ever believe a diabetic necessarily was responsible for their diabetes, many believe that alcoholics and drug addicts are responsible for their alcoholism and addiction.”

“How do we change these attitudes?”

- Focus on the emerging science
- Get the message out that treatment works and the outcome studies that prove it”

“Attitudes will change when people are given the irrefutable evidence and science about what this disease is, and what recovery about this disease really is, and what it isn’t.”

**Quotes by: Christopher Kennedy Lawford**



# 2015 Missouri Mental Health Champions Awards Ceremony and Banquet

## A "SALUTE" to VOLUNTEERS & PLANNING COMMITTEE



# THANK YOU

**TOGETHER** we can make a difference  
in *Changing Attitudes and Building  
Hope* for some of Missouri's most  
vulnerable citizens.

Visit our Website:  
[www.MissouriMHF.org](http://www.MissouriMHF.org)

