

BETTER TOGETHER RECOGNITIONS · PWLE VOICES

Nomination Form

Paper form v1.3 · Nominations open August 10 and close October 31, 2026

Anyone may nominate. There is no membership and no fee. You do not have to be a person with lived experience, you do not have to belong to any organization, and you do not have to know the person well. If you saw the work, that is enough. You may nominate yourself, and a self-nomination is weighed exactly the same as any other.

We let a nominee know a nomination was received. Whether they learn who nominated them is up to you — question 12 asks. Recipients are chosen by a panel of people with lived experience; the co-chairs convene the process and do not choose. Every nomination goes into one pool, and the panel places it by the nominee's role, so choosing the wrong recognition costs you nothing. There is no word limit — use extra paper if you need it.

Better Together Recognitions carry no payment. A certificate is not a substitute for fair compensation for lived-experience work, and this program does not pretend otherwise. What it offers is a community putting on the record what it values.

THE RECOGNITION

1. Which recognition are you nominating for? *

- ☐ The Expertise of Experience — for a person with lived experience
- ☐ The True Partner — for a researcher
- ☐ The Open Door — for an advocate or ally
- ☐ The Chair Beside — for care and accompaniment (a family member, partner, or friend giving care; a peer supporter; anyone holding a recurring space others rely on)
- ☐ I'm not sure — the story below will make it clear

All four are open. Any category without a worthy nomination this year stays open, and those nominations are kept for 2027.

WHO YOU'RE NOMINATING

2. Nominee's name *

3. How can we reach them, if they're selected?

Email is best. If you don't have it, leave this blank — we'll find them.

4. Their role or affiliation, in a few words *

We use this to place the nomination in the right category and to check for conflicts on the panel. "Patient advisor on a PCORI study," "my mother's care partner for nine years," "pain researcher at [university]." Whatever you know is enough, but leave something.

5. How long has this work been going on?

A rough answer is fine — "since 2019," "about three years," "one meeting that mattered." Leave blank if you don't know.

6. A short bio, if you can offer one

Two or three sentences. If they're selected we'll build the full bio with them directly.

7. A photo of the nominee, if possible

Tape or clip a printed photo, or email one to editorpwlevoices@gmail.com with the nominee's name in the subject line. Skip this freely.

THE STORY

8. Tell us what they did. *

Describe the specific contribution — a moment, a meeting, a pattern of work. What happened, and what would have been different without them? Write the way you'd tell it to a friend.

9. Why does it deserve to be on the record? *

Recognition is how a community records what it values. What should the rest of us learn or expect from what this person did?

ABOUT YOU

10. Your name *

11. Your email or phone *

Only used if the panel has a question about your nomination. Never published, never shared.

12. May we tell the nominee who nominated them? *

- ☐ Yes, share my name
- ☐ No, tell them they were nominated but not by whom

13. Your relationship to the nominee *

- ☐ We've worked together in research or advocacy
- ☐ They're my family member, friend, or care partner
- ☐ I know their work but not them personally
- ☐ I am nominating myself
- ☐ Other

14. May we quote from your nomination if the nominee is selected? *

- ☐ Yes, with my name
- ☐ Yes, but anonymously
- ☐ No — use it for selection only

WHERE TO SEND IT

Mail: PWLE Voices — Better Together Recognitions, 1656 West 25th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90007. Postmarked by October 31, 2026.

Or, if it's easier: email your answers to editorpwlevoices@gmail.com · call (323) 300-4075 and leave a message, and a co-chair will call you back · fill it in online at chronicpainla.com/nominate

Paper is not a lesser route. Every nomination, however it arrives, enters the same pool and is read on the same terms.

Recognition is not a substitute for fair compensation. All recognitions in this program are non-monetary. Recipients are announced November 30, 2026.

CO-CHAIR INTAKE · Date received _____ Via _____ Entered by _____ Intake ID _____
COI screen ☐ Consent asked ☐ Logged ☐