

**CITY OF BALTIMORE**  
MAYOR STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE



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*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

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## **Health Department Seeks Nominations for the 2010 Sebastian Russo Memorial Award**

BALTIMORE, MD (April 20, 2010) – The Baltimore City Health Department is soliciting nominations of healthcare providers who have made significant contributions to their fields and to the City by providing dedicated and compassionate service to low-income individuals and families. The winner will receive the Sebastian Russo Memorial Award.

This award, created in 2007, honors Dr. Sebastian Russo, a Baltimore City family physician known for tireless and devoted service to his patients. Over his long career, Dr. Russo exemplified a commitment to reducing barriers to health care access. Before his tragic death in 1981, he was embraced by his community, which recognized the value of a physician who made house calls, learned multiple languages to communicate more effectively with patients, and charged only when patients were truly able to pay.

Any medical doctor, nurse, physician's assistant or other health professional practicing in Baltimore City may be nominated for the Dr. Sebastian Russo Memorial Award. The deadline for nomination submissions is May 28, 2010.

“Many of Baltimore’s health care providers consistently go above and beyond expectations in service to their clients and the City,” said Interim Health Commissioner Olivia D. Farrow. “This award is one way of thanking one extraordinary individual for his or her efforts.”

Nomination forms and additional information about the Dr. Sebastian Russo Memorial Award are available online at [www.baltimorehealth.org/russoaward](http://www.baltimorehealth.org/russoaward). Forms can also be picked up in person from the Health Department at the 1001 East Fayette Street address. For more information, contact NiiAmah Stephens at [niiamah.stephens@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:niiamah.stephens@baltimorecity.gov) or 410-396-3876.

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