

# THE WORKPLACE COMPASSION AWARD

Presented live at "One Thing I Wish You Knew" — November 15, 2026



## AT A GLANCE

### WHO NOMINATES

Employees nominate their own employer

### ONE COMPANY HONORED

A single award, company-wide

### TO ACCEPT

An executive must be present

### NOMINATIONS OPEN

August 1, 2026

### DEADLINE

September 30, 2026

### WINNER NOTIFIED

October 15, privately

### CELEBRATED LIVE

November 15, 2026

### TO NOMINATE

[fcwi.org/nominate](https://fcwi.org/nominate)

## Why This Award Exists

Every year, our community shares what they wish others understood about their struggles and resilience — and workplaces are where so many of those stories begin. This award recognizes the one company whose own employees say, unprompted, "this place actually cared." It can't be bought or self-applied for — only earned.

## How It Works

**1**

### Employees Nominate

Any employee can nominate their employer with one specific story of a moment the company showed real care.

**2**

### A Committee Decides

The UMatter oversight committee of Mental health professionals, choose one winner privately — no campaigning, no finalists.

**3**

### The Winner Is Told Early

The winning company learns on October 15, so leadership can invite the whole team to attend Nov 15.

**4**

### An Executive Accepts, Live

The reveal happens on stage — an executive must be present to accept, alongside the employee who nominated them.

## What the Winning Company Receives

*Designed to be genuinely useful — not a certificate that ends up in a drawer.*

### A Produced Story

**\$2,500 VALUE**

A professionally produced feature of the winning story — theirs to use freely in recruiting, socials, and press.

### The Physical Award

**KEEPSAKE**

A well-crafted trophy or plaque, built to be displayed — not filed away.

### Live Recognition

**PRICELESS**

Announced on stage Nov 15 — accepted by an executive, alongside the employee who nominated them.

## 2026 Timeline

**AUG 1**

Nominations open

**SEP 30**

Nominations close

**OCT 15**

Winner notified privately

**NOV 15**

Celebrated live

## Why It's Worth Encouraging

It costs nothing to be nominated. Encourage your employees to nominate you — not as a favor, but because if your company ever truly showed up for someone, that story deserves to be told, in public, at the region's largest mental health event.

Nominate at [fcwi.org/nominate](https://fcwi.org/nominate) — takes less than 10 minutes.