The Parker J. Palmer Courage to Lead Award honors Designated Institutional Officials (DIOs) who have demonstrated excellence in overseeing residency programs at their sponsoring institutions. DIOs have authority and responsibility for all graduate medical education programs in a teaching hospital, community hospital or other type of institution that sponsors residency programs.

**John Patrick T. Co, MD, MPH**  
Designated Institutional Official  
Brigham and Women’s Hospital/Massachusetts General Hospital  
Boston, Massachusetts

**Nominators had this to say:**

“Dr. Co’s deep commitment to clinical education and high-quality patient care motivates his research, teaching and leadership activities. He is a passionate champion of patient safety and quality improvement (PS/QI) efforts: he redesigned the MGH Pediatric program’s PS/QI curriculum to provide project-based learning opportunities, co-chaired a system-level Task Force that designed a cross-specialty PS/QI curriculum for all trainees, and has directly mentored multiple projects (several of which have been published).”

“[Dr. Co] plans and hosts cross-specialty annual retreats for Interns and for Clinical Fellows, gives presentations to program directors and coordinators on a range of topics, and effectively mentors individual program directors, GME staff and individual trainees.”

“Dr. John Co is a leading example of a physician who motivates each of us to contribute to improving all aspects of care and training.”

“Dr. Co has been a champion for resident involvement in hospital leadership, helping to ensure resident representation on all major hospital committees. Further, he makes a point to always ask for and integrate the resident perspective on hospital issues, both big and small.”