The Deacon Palmer Award recognizes Professionals who personally display outstanding integrity, character and leadership, in the effort to overcome a major obstacle in their life.

This year's winner, Eric Gilliland of Audubon Country Club in Louisville:

- Was diagnosed with colon cancer at the young age of 35
- Has worked with and for the Cancer Prevention Project in many capacities to promote screening and to remove the stigma of discussing an uncomfortable topic
- Over the past two years, his daughter and he have raised over \$12,000 to be split between the CCPP and the Kentucky Golf Foundation by participating in PGA Golf Day. By playing 100 holes each year, he has demonstrated what can be achieved physically, post-diagnosis. Social media has also been an excellent tool for spreading the word about the work of the CCCP and the charities of the Kentucky Golf Foundation.
- Worked closely with a small group to develop the first "Colon One" Golf Outing in 2015, which raised over \$15,000 in net proceeds for the Project and survivors were able to speak in an open forum about their experiences and to encourage screenings and symptom recognition
- Works with other Pros to achieve goals honestly obtained through hard work, placing others before self to leave a positive impact on the local community