

# 2014 list of PHNAC award recipients

## **Exemplary Frontier Public Health Nurse**

*Susan Kelly, Lincoln County Public Health*

Susan Kelly has been dedicated to being a part of the frontier community of Lincoln County for thirty years. She has served in public health and community nursing positions which administer direct one-on-one care. Her dedication has led her back to public health and she has perfected the approach of utilizing the resources at hand to serve the community. She is diligent in her administration of funds which have garnered her the respect of Lincoln county commissioners and her non-nonsense approach coupled with a reputation for reliability have made her an invaluable resource for Lincoln County.

## **Exemplary Frontier Public Health Nurse**

*Trish McClain, Northeast Colorado Health Department (NCHD)*

As a public health nurse and the deputy director of the Northeast Colorado Health Department, Trish has served a six county region for the last seven years with compassion, professionalism, and dedication. Whether it be working in client health services, delivering bottled water to a mobile home community without safe water, working around the clock during a natural flood disaster, or simply assisting in rabies and anthrax outbreaks, her focus is protecting public health in a selfless manner and putting the interest of others at the core of her labor. She is a kind and considerate leader and who leads by example as a way to motivate her staff, colleagues, and the community.

## **Lillian Wald Award**

*Tsering K. Dorjee, Formally With Colorado Department of Public Health And Environment*

Tsering K. Dorjee joined CDPHE's Office of Planning and Partnerships in 2009 as a Public Health Nurse Consultant, bringing her quick thinking, fast talking style along with her many credentials, to support public health nursing during the major transition in Colorado's public health system. Leaders from the PHNAC Practice Council have recognized her resourcefulness and gift of connectedness, as she shared and her deep understanding of the PHN challenges, strengths, and needs across Colorado. Tsering was a driving force in moving public health nursing competencies forward and creating the public health nurse orientation held with Public Health in the Rockies. Tsering represented Colorado as a member of the Association of Public Health Nurses as well as the nursing representative for the American Public Health Association's Nursing section. Tsering moved with her Tibetan family back to the Pacific Northwest this summer. A huge loss for Colorado, but a call to recognize superb work, and remember a role model of quiet passion, respect for others, and commitment to "get it done" by recognizing her with this award.

## **New Public Health Nurse of the Year**

*Andrea Mujica, Tri-County Health Department*

Andrea has been an active member of PHNAC since 2011. Andrea actively networked with public health nurses as mentors to learn more about the specialty of PHN before choosing PHN as her nursing field after graduating with her BSN. In her three years as a PHN she has worked in the Access to Care program providing health assessments to low income pregnant women when they apply for Medicaid. Since assuming this position she has researched best practices, updated clinical protocols, participated in outreach to PCP's and redesigned the emergency Medicaid clinic for monolingual mothers using the Center Pregnancy model. She is a kind caring nurse

who goes out of her way to assure that the families she interacts with are treated with respect and provided all the resources and education they need.

**PHNAC Award for Excellence**

*Martha Hubbard, Teller County*

Martha's work on Senate Bill 222 (Immunization Requirements) was a great example of how public health nurses can affect policy and legislation. Also, her presidency of PHNAC demonstrated professional commitment and her dedication to take public health nursing into the future. Martha is progressive in her attention to PH issues and works diligently to advocate for the cause. Martha is a visionary who is not afraid of speaking up for issues she believes in. Martha's wit and insight have served her well. She has that 'gift of gab' and can charm the pants off of anyone. Martha is a true Nurse Leader and we are very happy that she works for public health in Colorado.