Chief Deputy Rick Minerd and Amy Becher Honored with the 2016 Randall M. Dana Award of Excellence

Franklin County Sheriff Chief Deputy Rick Minerd and Southeast Nurse Practitioner Amy Becher were honored with the 2016 Randall M. Dana Award of Excellence at the ADAMH annual meeting held on Tuesday, October 18 2016 at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center.

The Randall M. Dana Award of Excellence began 14 years ago in honor of long-time local advocate Randall M. Dana. The award recognizes a dedicated professional within the behavioral healthcare field who shows a great level of commitment to consumers, family members and recovery.

Minerd and Becher were instrumental in the creation of the Franklin County Heroin Overdose Prevention and Education (HOPE) Task Force. The HOPE Task Force, created earlier this year, brings together multiple agencies and community resources to fight the heroin epidemic in Franklin County. Funding from ADAMH has allowed the task force to implement an innovative pilot program. A clinician from Southeast works with the Sheriff’s office to provide outreach to a person immediately after a non-fatal overdose. This partnership has facilitated a shift to helping people who suffer from addiction.

Nancy Dana, widow of Randy Dana and award presenter said “that hearing about the work that these two people are doing in Franklin County gives me hope. Randy would be so proud of the work these two are doing for people suffering from addiction.”

ADAMH helps Franklin County residents find the right places to turn for affordable, quality alcohol, drug addiction and mental health treatment and prevention services. These services are provided by more than 33 not-for-profit contract agencies located in neighborhoods throughout the county. A sliding fee scale for services means any Franklin County resident can receive needed services and be charged on the basis of income and circumstance. To learn more about ADAMH, visit the website at adamhfranklin.org
Dr. Anahi Ortiz was honored with the 2016 Barry Mastrine Award at the ADAMH annual meeting on Tuesday, October 18 at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center.

The Barry Mastrine Award recognizes someone’s work that motivates health care providers to work together, promotes collaboration and cooperation between agencies and inspires people to give back to the community.

This year’s award recipient, Franklin County Coroner Dr. Ortiz, has been instrumental in bringing the community together around the opiate epidemic. In 2015, she started a Drug Overdose Drug Review to bring together people in many fields to help answer questions and raise new ones around the ever-growing opiate epidemic. As a result of this work, she brought together a team to host the first annual Franklin County Opiate Crisis Summit in March 2016. Over 400 community members attended. Then, in August 2016, Dr. Ortiz called together over 100 partners to announce the completion of the Community Action Plan and kick off the Franklin County Opiate Task Force.

“My entire career has revolved around advocacy for the underserved which includes those with addiction. I feel as a medical professional this is my duty and also my mission in life,” said Dr. Ortiz, Franklin County Coroner and Barry Mastrine Award recipient.

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Timothy Wheat Honored with Art Lynn Consumer & Family Advocate Award

Timothy Wheat was honored with the Art Lynn Consumer & Family Advocate Award at the 2016 ADAMH annual meeting, held on Tuesday, October 18 at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center.

This award is named in honor of Dr. Art Lynn, Jr., Professor Emeritus of the Public Policy and Management School at The Ohio State University and long-time member of the ADAMH Board of Trustees. The Consumer and Family Advocacy Council (CFAC) established this award to recognize a person who has contributed outstanding efforts in order to improve the quality of life for Franklin County citizens.

Wheat is a founding member of Southeast’s Consumer Advisory Committee; Southeast’s Board of Director and Quality Improvement Committee and a volunteer for the Downtown YMCA.

Sandra Stephenson, Director of Integrated Healthcare at Southeast and nominator for this award explained that “Mr. Wheat has engaged fully in his recovery journey and reaches out to others who actively struggle with addiction, mental health issues and homelessness. He embodies the ADAMH tagline, Treatment Works. Recovery Happens.”

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