



Contact: Loretta Moses
Executive Director
Clark County Medical Society
loretta.moses@clarkcountymedical.org

Contact: Yanné Givens
Community & Public Relations Specialist
Clark County Medical Society
yanne.givens@clarkcountymedical.org

CCMS Presents First-Ever “Winged Heart Award” and “Student Rising Star Award”

The Clark County Medical Society honored one nurse and one non-profit with the CCMS Winged Heart Award, as well as two medical students with CCMS Student Rising Star Awards at the 59th annual Presidential Installation Dinner & Awards Ceremony

LAS VEGAS (July 10, 2013) - The Clark County Medical Society ([CCMS](#)), recognized one local nurse, [Abby Hudema](#) and one local non-profit organization, the [Dr. Joel & Carol Bower School-Based Health Center](#) with the first-ever CCMS Winged Heart Award. This award was presented to members of the medical community who demonstrate an unwavering commitment to quality health care in Southern Nevada.

To determine which nurse and which non-profit would receive the award, the CCMS Presidents’ Committee, led by Immediate Past President [Dr. George Alexander](#), reviewed nominations submitted by the public and selected three finalists from each category. The three finalists in the nursing category were the CCMS Winged Heart Award recipient, **Abby Hudema**, Pediatric Trauma Program Coordinator and EMS Liaison, UMC Trauma and Burn Center; **Dr. Debra Toney**, Director of Clinical Operations, Nevada Health Centers; and **Denise Taylor**, Antepartum Testing Coordinator, Well Health Quality Care-Women’s Specialty Care.

The recipient of the CCMS Winged Heart Award for outstanding non-profit was **The Dr. Joel & Carol Bower School-Based Health Center**. Founded in 2004 as collaboration between Nevada State College and the Clark County School District, this school-based health center provides high quality, accessible health care to children in Henderson schools, especially those who are uninsured, underinsured and members of vulnerable populations. The other two finalists in this category were the **ORION Cancer Foundation**, which provides financial assistance to patients in Nevada who are unable to afford the essentials of daily living while undergoing treatment for cancer and **Smiles for Survivors**, which connects cancer patients with dentists and other specialists to provide preventative and restorative dental treatment, as well as educates patients and the community about the connection between cancer treatments and oral health.

The CCMS Winged Heart Award is the society’s first award for which the public was asked to nominate someone. CCMS accepted nominations for the two OPEN award categories, nursing and non-profit organization, from May 1-31, 2013. Those nominated in the nursing category must be currently affiliated with a local practice or hospital and providing necessary services to patients, either on an inpatient or outpatient basis, while non-profit nominees must be a registered non-profit related to medicine/health care or promoting wellness in the community.

-more-

The other new award brought to the CCMS organization this year is the [CCMS Student Rising Star Award](#), for which the Deans of Touro University Nevada and the University of Nevada School of Medicine submitted their nominations. The CCMS Student Rising Star Award recipients named were- **Ellia Ciammaichella**, a third-year osteopathic medical student at Touro University Nevada College of Osteopathic Medicine and **Zareen Choudhury**, a fourth-year medical student from the University of Nevada School of Medicine.

Award recipients were honored at the CCMS Presidential Installation Dinner & Awards Ceremony at the Four Seasons on June 29, 2013. For more information on award recipients/finalists, please visit <http://clarkcountymedical.org/Nominations.php>

About Clark County Medical Society:

Established in 1955, the Clark County Medical Society is a professional organization of more than 1,100 physicians. The organization advocates for physicians and their patients in Southern Nevada, encouraging the delivery of quality health care within the community. For more information visit www.clarkcountymedical.org or call **702-739-9989**. Follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/CCMedSociety

###