

Dr. van Ulft Receives Illinois Rural Physician of Excellence Award

Heartland Human Services is pleased to announce Dr. Stephanie van Ulft, Medical Director, has been chosen by the Illinois Rural Health Association (IHRA) to receive that organization's 2007 Rural Physician of Excellence Award.

The IRHA bestows this distinguished award to outstanding rural physicians "...for their work to improve the health and well-being of our rural and underserved residents."

Dr. van Ulft was nominated for this award in July by Dr. Peter Alahi at the University Of Illinois College Of Medicine. Dr. Alahi also serves as Medical Director for the Central Network.

The IRHA selects physicians to receive this award based on the three selection factors:

- Contributions to his/her local community in civic, cultural, and health care arenas
- Contributions to the field of medicine
- Contributions in humanitarian activities

According to the IRHA, "These are exemplary physicians working in rural and underserved counties in Illinois that go beyond the call of duty to care for residents and help build our rural and underserved communities."

A reception honoring Dr. van Ulft and other award recipients was held on September 18th, at the President Abraham Lincoln Hotel and Conference Center in Springfield. Another reception will be held at a later date at Heartland Human Services in her honor, and will be open to the public.

Dr. van Ulft truly deserves this award as she contributes to the better health and improved quality of life for her patients as well as our entire community. Dr. van Ulft is a shining star in our organization.

Stephanie van Ulft, M.D., was hired by Heartland Human Services in January of 2003 as agency Medical Director. In that role Dr. van Ulft provides psychiatric care to clients of Heartland Human Services and provides medical leadership to agency staff. Dr. van Ulft received certification from the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology in April of 1992 and the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology-Geriatric Psychiatry in December 1995. Prior to coming to Heartland, Dr. van Ulft was in private practice in the St. Louis area working with geriatric clients. Dr. van Ulft and her husband, Carlo, live in Greenville where they are very active in both their church and community.