



# PRESS RELEASE

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## IDAHO COUNSELING ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES ITS 2015 ANNUAL AWARDS

### POCATELLO, ID

#### **Recognizing Phenomenal Idaho Counselors**

The Idaho Counseling Association (ICA) hosted its 53rd annual conference for over 250 counselors on January 28-31<sup>st</sup> at The Red Lion Hotel in Pocatello. The following were the six awardees recognized at the Annual Awards Luncheon on Saturday, January 31st, 2015 at 12:00 p.m.

#### **Lifetime Achievement Award – Jim Schmidt (Boise, ID)**

Jim has made a true impact on the counseling profession in Idaho. He was a pioneer in advocating for school counselors across the state, helped establish licensure, served two terms as ICA President, and continues to be a mentor for students. Jim also served as the Director of Counseling for the Boise School District.

#### **Counselor of the Year – Cassidy Roske (Pocatello, ID)**

Cassidy is the Program Director at Bright Tomorrows Child Advocacy Center, provides evidence based/child sensitive clinical services to child victims of sexual abuse and their families. She works collaboratively with the other Bannock County professionals who respond to child abuse to improve investigation and follow up clinical services to victims of child sexual abuse and their families. Cassidy spends time educating the public about child sexual abuse from presenting at state conferences to meeting one on one with local principals.

#### **Advocate "Pass it on Baton" – Jeri Gowen (Caldwell, ID)**

Jeri currently serves as the Director for Safe and Drug Free Schools/Counseling and the PLACE after School Program for elementary students. Jeri writes grants for the Vallivue School district and serves on many advisory boards in her community such as the Behavioral Health Board for Region 3, where she is a member of the executive board.

#### **Volunteer Service "Wing Award" – Lynn Bohecker (Boise, ID)**

Lynn is a Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist and a Registered Supervisor. In private practice, Lynn has provided therapy for individuals, couples, children, and families and supervision for graduates seeking state licensure. She has taught Professional Counseling part time for the past eight years and is currently a doctoral candidate at Idaho State University in Counselor Education and Counseling.

#### **Distinguished Service "Medal of Honor" – Sue Holmes (Idaho Falls, ID)**

Sue has worked with the Idaho Counseling Association for 10 years and currently serves as the Executive Director of ICA. She is also a school counselor at Sunnyside Elementary School in Pocatello and adjunct faculty member for Northwest Nazarene University.

#### **Public Policy and Legislation Award – Jeannie Strohmeyer (Nampa, ID)**

Jeannie is a client service coordinator at the Nampa Family Justice Center (a co-located facility that serves victims of domestic abuse, sexual assault, child abuse, and elder abuse). Through her work at the NFJC and within the community, Jeannie has become a leader in engaging our community to better address the needs of victims experiencing trauma and violence.

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