

## 2015 Fitzsimmons Awards

This award historically invites the Oak Park community to recognize those individuals or organizations that they believe deserve this award for their contribution to the health and well-being of Oak Parkers during the past year. The Fitzsimmons Award for Excellence in Public Health is named in honor of the Oak Park Health Department's Medical Consultant from 1976-1992. Dr. William Fitzsimmons was an Oak Park physician and selfless humanitarian who volunteered his services to the Village for many years. Dr. Fitzsimmons is remembered for his compassion for others, regardless of race or socio-economic status, his deep love of medicine, and his dedication to the service of others.

The 2015 Dr. William Fitzsimmons Award winners are:

**Rene "Kip" Adrian**, is currently the Director of Emergency Medicine at West Suburban Medical Center. Dr. Adrian was nominated by a resident for his kindness and his humble nature when working with patients such as not identifying himself as the medical Director, or using his first name with patients to connect with patients). The design of emergency care is to stabilize patients and then send them to a consistent form of care but Dr. Adrian goes the extra mile when it comes to follow-up with patients including contacting them in a different unit or hospital or calling them personally to ensure their full recovery. Dr. Adrian was nominated by Jay Schulman and some of the staff at West Suburban Hospital).

**Dr. Marge Epstein** provides invaluable service to her patients as a licensed clinical social worker/therapist. She takes on the most challenging of cases, in particular suicide prevention, and brings a level of care and commitment to her patients 24/7. She is also forgiving if patients are financially challenged. On numerous occasions she will leave dinner to take a call from her patients. Dr. Epstein was nominated by Ray Johnson.

**Kris Raino-Ogden and the coalition of IMPACT (Parents and Community Together to Reduce Youth Drug and Alcohol Use)**, has created a safer and healthier Oak Park by engaging our community and social systems that interface with our youth to prevent and reduce underage drinking and drug use. IMPACT was formed in response to the startling statistics regarding alcohol and drug use among high school youths. IMPACT has sponsored middle and high school community forums and programs such as FACE-IT. IMPACT supported other initiatives such as the closed campus at OPRF and the Village curfew. Kris' has put in many tireless volunteer efforts along with the IMPACT coalition. Kris was nominated by Dr. Mariann Piano.

**Tony McCormick** is a Certified Athletic Trainer and works for Athletico Physical Therapy for outpatient physical therapy in Oak Park. Not only does his work include patient care, but also serves on the Education Committee for the Athletico and athletic trainer outreach for Fenwick High School. He also assisted in many community projects including the FLW race, Trinity High School race, and many community health fairs. Tony also works with the Oak Park Police Department during their annual training program for all patrol employees. He also assists with student from Concordia University who

are pursuing health related fields. Currently Tony serves on the Loyola University Children's Committee at Loyola University Medical Center. Tony was nominated by Tracy McCormick.

**Lynda Schueler**, is the Executive Director of West Suburban PADS. She has devoted her career to helping men and women and families transition from homelessness to housing. Her leadership has enabled the agency's growth from a \$450,000 a year shelter provider to a \$3.5 million agency offering housing, services and prevention programs in addition to safety-net services. In 2001, Lynda led the creation of an innovative medical service model called Project WIN (Wellness Initiative Network) to address the medical and behavioral health issues of persons experiencing homelessness in Oak Park and surrounding communities. Lynda has forged long-standing health services partnerships with local agencies such as Thrive to deliver coordinated illness management, recovery self-monitoring, relapse prevention, crisis intervention, health care education and on-site medical care, helping thousands resolve their health issues and end their homelessness.

## **2015 Johnson Restaurant Awards**

The Johnson Restaurant Award acknowledges sanitation excellence in Oak Park food service establishments by recognizing the top ten Oak Park restaurants scores. This award is named in memory of Oak Park's first lunch room, which began operations at 124 Lake Street in the early 1890's. To be eligible for the award, a food service establishment must be a restaurant that has been previously defined as a Category I food establishment under the Illinois State Food Service Sanitation Code. Category I food establishments are responsible for managing all aspects of their food safety and sanitation program which includes many complex food handling processes including receiving, cold holding, cooking, cooling, reheating and serving. Restaurants receiving this year's award have an average routine inspection score in the top 10 Category I facilities based on their scores for the last two calendar years (2013 & 2014).

Boss Burrito, 1110 W. Westgate St.

Aripo's Venezuelan Arepa House, 118 N. Marion St.

King & I, 105 N. Marion St.

Cucina Paradiso, 814 North Blvd.

Happiness Restaurant, 6222 Roosevelt Rd.

Jerusalem Café, 1030 W. Lake St.

Buzz Café, 905 S. Lombard Ave.

Penny's Noodle Shop, 1130 Chicago Ave.

TGI Friday's, 401 N. Harlem Ave.

Sagano Sushi, 731 Lake St.