MercyOne colleagues shine bright at All-Star Evening

Character Counts All-Star Iowan Evening sought out community members who went above and beyond this last year, throughout the adversity and challenges thrown their way. The Six Pillars of Character (trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship) were highlighted as key criteria in recognizing nominees and their efforts throughout Iowa’s response to COVID-19 and the August derecho.

Several of MercyOne’s very own colleagues were nominated and recognized at this event for their commitment and dedication throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. These nominees included: Emily Schaefer (Covid Coordinator), Adriana Mapes (Clinic Administrator), Suzi Frein (North Manager), and Ryan Wagner (Hospital Pharmacy).

Both Emily and Adriana were able to attend the event, where the two all-stars were presented with medallions, amidst a crowd of more than 125 additional Iowans being recognized for their outstanding efforts this past year.

“Good character shines through when we work together to overcome challenges,” said Drake University President Marty Martin. “We are excited to honor frontline workers, including healthcare professionals and first responders, who led our state with grace, determination, and compassion. It is our privilege to recognize their exemplary acts of selflessness and courage at the All-Star Evening.”

MercyOne Central Iowa has two IHERF scholarship winners

Two colleagues from MercyOne Central Iowa have each been awarded a $3,500 scholarship from the Iowa Hospital Education and Research Foundation (IHERF), which is supported by the Iowa Hospital Association (IHA).

These individuals are among just 60 students from Iowa who have received assistance this year from the IHERF Health Care Careers Scholarship Program:

• John Bieber, an employee of MercyOne Des Moines Medical Center, is studying medical lab science at Mercy College

• Beth Hammond, an employee of MercyOne West Des Moines Medical Center, is studying Bachelor of Science in Nursing at Allen College

IHA established the IHERF Health Care Careers Scholarship Program in 2004 to help address the shortage of health care professionals and encourage young Iowans to establish or continue their careers with Iowa hospitals. The first scholarships were awarded in 2005 and now more than 625 students have benefited from the program.

In exchange for this financial support, students agree to work one year in an Iowa hospital for each year they receive an award. In this way, the scholarship program helps stabilize and enhance Iowa’s hospital workforce. Today, 380 scholarship recipients are working in Iowa hospitals.
**MercyOne colleagues attend concert**

MercyOne colleagues were given the chance to win VIP tickets to a Lorrie Morgan concert, hosted by the Iowa Catholic Radio Foundation. Pictured are the lucky winners who enjoyed an evening of music, snacks and comradery.

**Sparkle Run 2021, May 2**

Sparkle Run, a 5K run and walk which raises money for various charities and projects around Iowa, raised more than $15,000 to support Child Life services at MercyOne Children’s Hospital.

The event is in memory of Erin Moomey, who passed away in 2013 of complications from Leukemia.

**Emerging Leaders program gives MercyOne a leg up on leadership skills**

July 15th marked the launch of the first cohort of Emerging Leaders at MercyOne Des Moines. Participants were selected from various departments to participate in a leadership development program focused on building leadership skills, opening up networking opportunities and providing an environment for collaboration for our future leaders.

**Former patient gives back to MOCH staff**

NICU colleagues were able to enjoy treats shared by a few former patients. A parent of triplets born at MercyOne heard how hard the NICU staff has been working and brought in snacks. The former patients took the time to decorated cards and boxes to include with the yummy treats.

**MercyOne ranked #1 in metro**

MercyOne Des Moines Medical Center has been recognized as a Best Hospital for 2021-22 by U.S. News & World Report.

MercyOne Des Moines Medical Center was ranked #1 in the Des Moines metro, and also ranked as a High Performing Hospital in abdominal aortic aneurysm repair, aortic valve surgery, COPD, colon cancer surgery, diabetes, heart attack, heart bypass surgery, heart failure, hip replacement, kidney failure, knee replacement and stroke.

“We are extremely proud of the quality of care provided by our world class physicians, clinicians and colleagues on a daily basis,” said Karl Keeler, president of MercyOne Des Moines. “We are committed to our patients and their families, and we will continue our pursuit of developing innovative care processes to deliver the best quality personalized care available.”