



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **San Antonio Pharmacist Christopher Alvarado Honored for Outstanding Community Service**

**WASHINGTON, DC** – The Texas Pharmacy Association (TPA) has selected Christopher Alvarado, PharmD, as the recipient of the 2017 Bowl of Hygeia Award for outstanding community service. Alvarado was presented the award at the 2017 TPA Conference & Expo Awards Luncheon on Friday, July 7. The Bowl of Hygeia is sponsored by the American Pharmacists Association Foundation, the National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations, and the American Pharmacists Association, with support from Boehringer Ingelheim.

Alvarado has contributed to his community since graduating from the University of the Incarnate Word Feik School of Pharmacy in 2010. He practices at the Oakdell Pharmacy and has worked in pharmacy for 30 years. Providing excellent patient care has been his primary focus. Alvarado has a unique gift of connecting with patients, colleagues and students that develop into lifelong relationships, and he has become their trusted pharmacist, treating each patient as if they were family. In addition, Alvarado enjoys educating students about pharmacy and the importance of becoming involved in protecting the pharmacy profession. He has been a preceptor for the past 6 years to many pharmacy students, and challenges them during their rotation to help prepare them for their Boards, and educates them on all aspects of pharmacy. Alvarado truly motivates his students and has never turned down a request to be a mentor.

Each year, Alvarado has been invited to speak at Joe Ward Elementary School about pharmacy as a career. He also serves as an officer or Board member in several pharmacy organizations. Within his local community, he was appointed to the Healthcare District Advisory Team for Rep. Rick Galindo and serves co-chair of the Fiesta NIOSA Event for the San Antonio Conservation Society, which assists in raising funds for the preservation of historical buildings, objects, and places relating to the history of the great state of Texas.

Established in 1958, the Bowl of Hygeia Award recognizes pharmacists who possess outstanding records of civic leadership in their communities and encourages pharmacists to take an active role in the affairs of their respective communities. The award is presented annually by participating state pharmacist associations, including those in the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. In addition to service through their local, state, and national pharmacy associations, award recipients have devoted their time, talent, and resources to a wide variety of causes and community service.

The Bowl of Hygeia is the most widely recognized international symbol for the pharmacy profession and is considered one of the profession's most prestigious awards. The Bowl of Hygeia has been associated with the pharmacy profession since as early as 1796 when the symbol was used on a coin minted for the Parisian Society of Pharmacy. The bowl represents a medicinal potion and the snake represents healing. Healing through medicine is precisely why the pharmacy profession has adopted the Bowl of Hygeia symbol.

**About the American Pharmacists Association Foundation**

The APhA Foundation, a nonprofit organization based in Washington, D.C., is a trusted source of research demonstrating how pharmacists can improve health care. The APhA Foundation's mission is to improve people's health through pharmacists' patient care services. The APhA Foundation is affiliated with the American Pharmacists Association, the national professional society of pharmacists in the U.S. For more information, please visit the APhA Foundation website [www.aphafoundation.org](http://www.aphafoundation.org). Follow the APhA Foundation on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) for the latest updates.

**About the National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations**

The National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations (NASPA) promotes leadership, sharing, learning, and policy exchange among pharmacy leaders in all 50 states and Washington, DC, and provides education and advocacy to support pharmacists, patients, and communities working together to improve public health. NASPA was founded in 1927 as the National Council of State Pharmacy Association Executives (NCSPAEE). For more information, please visit the NASPA website [www.naspa.us](http://www.naspa.us).