



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Media Contacts:

Chad Clinton

Associate Director, Public Relations

American Pharmacists Association

cclinton@aphanet.org

(202) 429-7558

Lovington Pharmacist Michael Raburn Honored for Outstanding Community Service

WASHINGTON, DC – The New Mexico Pharmacists Association (NMPHA) has selected Michael Raburn, RPh, as the recipient of the 2018 Bowl of Hygeia Award for outstanding community service. Raburn was presented the award at the NMPHA 2018 Mid-Winter Meeting on Annual Convention on Sunday, January 28. 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.

Raburn has contributed to his community since graduating from the University of New Mexico College of Pharmacy in 1987. He is the independent community pharmacy owner of Michael's Prescription Center. Raburn provides immunizations, consultant services for mental health and substance abuse as well as consulting for the Lovington Fire Department. In 2000, Raburn began looking for a solution to bring badly needed prescription services to the Southeastern part of the State. He opened the first Telepharmacy in May 2014 in Eunice, NM and judging from the average 160+ prescriptions that flow through the technology-enabled satellite pharmacy each day, the Telepharmacy concept is working! Raburn has also opened pharmacies in Lovington and Hobbs. He expressed: "We went into a community where people were hungry for a community pharmacy. People are so appreciative of us."

Raburn served as NMPHA President in 2016 and is currently on the Executive Council and Convention Committee. He also currently serves as the NMPHA Representative on the New Mexico Society of Health System Pharmacist's Board. Raburn received the National 2012 Excellence in Innovation Award, sponsored by Upsher-Smith Laboratories, in recognition of his development of innovative patient care programs in New Mexico.

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. 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 (NCSPA). For more information, please visit the NASPA website www.naspa.us.