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River Vale Pharmacist Maria T. Leibfried Honored for Outstanding Community Service

Washington, DC – The New Jersey Pharmacists Association (NJPhA) has selected Maria T. Leibfried, BS, PharmD, BCNSP, CCP, as the recipient of the 2014 Bowl of Hygeia Award for outstanding community service. Leibfried was presented with the award at the NJPhA Annual Meeting & Convention on Sunday, September 21. The award 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.

Leibfried is employed by St. John's University in Queens, NY. She earned her bachelor's of science degree in pharmacy from Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey–New Brunswick in 1993 and her Doctor of Pharmacy degree in 1997.

Leibfried is an active participant in NJPhA, St. John's University, her home church, and her daughters' cheerleading teams. As a leader within NJPhA, she serves as a co-chair of the Journal Committee; in this role, she has implemented the pharmacy practice spotlight, serving on the panel at this year's convention, and improved the perception of the journal by implementing peer review. In addition to her committee position, Leibfried established one of the only official student chapters of NJPhA (at St. John's). As chapter adviser, she has led her students to become more active in NJPhA and to raise money to fund transportation to the association's convention. Under her leadership, the chapter is also now planning to hold a law review for students taking the NJ exam, as it is not currently offered at St. John's. She is also a member of the NJ Academy of Consultant Pharmacists and Alpha Chi Omega sorority.

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 active roles 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.

Information regarding contributing to the Bowl of Hygeia is available by contacting the APhA Foundation at 202-429-7565 or info@aphafoundation.org.

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.