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**Forestburg Pharmacist Earl Hinricher Honored for Outstanding Community Service**

**Washington, DC** – The South Dakota Pharmacists Association (SDPhA) has selected Earl J. Hinricher, RPh, as the recipient of the 2014 Bowl of Hygeia Award for outstanding community service. Hinricher was presented with the award at the SDPhA Annual Meeting on Friday, September 19. 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.

Hinricher is the lead pharmacist at Huron Regional Medical Center in Huron, SD. He graduated from South Dakota State University College of Pharmacy in 1980.

A true and valued pharmacy and community leader, Hinricher is involved in his community in a variety of ways and is described as the first to step up when needed. In addition to his current position, he has also been a clinic manager and college instructor. He supports his community and church and serves (or has served in the past) on the People's Transit Board of Huron (2002-2008), the Rotary Service Club (as treasurer and board member), and Our Savior's Lutheran Church (as past president and current board member). He has worked with many community leaders on healthcare worker recruitment for rural areas. In addition, he has long served as a preceptor for SDSU College of Pharmacy and has been a valued mentor to many students in that role.

Hinricher was involved with SDPhA from 2006 to 2011, serving in various positions including secretary/treasurer, vice president, president-elect, and president (in 2011). He also previously served as president of SDPhA's Huron District.

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](mailto: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](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).