



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**October 31, 2013**

**Media Contacts:**

Michelle Spinnler  
Sr. Manager of External Communications  
American Pharmacists Association  
[mspinnler@aphanet.org](mailto:mspinnler@aphanet.org)  
(202) 429-7558

Nancy K. Longest  
Awards Coordinator  
National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations  
[awards@naspa.us](mailto:awards@naspa.us)  
(804) 285-4431

**Huron, South Dakota Pharmacist, Ann M. Cruse, Honored for Outstanding Community Service**

**Washington, DC** – The South Dakota Pharmacists Association (SDPhA) has selected Ann M. Cruse as the recipient of the 2013 Bowl of Hygeia Award for outstanding community service. Cruse was presented with the award during the SDPhA Annual Convention, September 13-14, 2013. The Bowl of Hygeia is sponsored by the American Pharmacists Association Foundation and the National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations with support from Boehringer Ingelheim.

Cruse is very active in the Huron District of the South Dakota Pharmacists Association and served as president of the district for many years. She served as a parent advisor and leader of the Junior and Senior Lutheran Youth Fellowship at Mt Calvary Lutheran Church. Ms. Cruse is a member of the Mt. Calvary Lutheran Women's Missionary League and has served as Treasurer and Gospel Outreach Chairman. She is also a member of the Huron Zone LWML as a Gospel Outreach committee member serving the Puppet Place at the South Dakota State Fair. She is a choir member at her church and sings often for funerals and weddings.

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 future 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 is affiliated with the American Pharmacists Association, the national professional society of pharmacists in the U.S. The APhA Foundation, a nonprofit organization based in Washington, D.C., is a national leader in designing programs to help patients with chronic healthcare conditions by optimizing medication use through coordination with pharmacists, the medication experts. The APhA Foundation's mission is to improve people's health through pharmacists' patient care services. For more information, please visit the APhA Foundation website [www.aphafoundation.org](http://www.aphafoundation.org).

**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 (NCSPAE). For more information, please visit the NASPA Web site [www.naspa.us](http://www.naspa.us).