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Media Contacts:

Caroline Shedlock
Administrative Manager and Communications
Associate
American Pharmacists Association Foundation
cshedlock@aphanet.org
(202) 429-7565

Knoxville Pharmacist Mac Wilhoit Honored for Outstanding Community Service

Washington, DC – The Tennessee Pharmacists Association (TPA) has selected Mac Wilhoit, DPh, as the recipient of the 2015 Bowl of Hygeia Award for outstanding community service. Wilhoit was presented with the award at the TPA 128th Annual Convention and Exposition on Thursday, July 16. 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.

Wilhoit is the owner of Mac's Pharmacy, Inc., in Knoxville, Tenn., where he has practiced pharmacy for over 25 years. He earned his pharmacy degree from the University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy in Memphis.

Wilhoit has actively served his community through his pharmacy and patient outreach. He has been an innovator in implementing new clinical services in his pharmacy practice dedicated to improving the health and outcomes of his patients. Specifically, he developed and implemented his own version of a patient medication compliance program, Mac's Pharmacy Synchronization Solution, to improve adherence in his patient population before that type of program was being developed on a national level. He also renovated his pharmacy to provide private consultation rooms to better serve his patients.

Mac's Pharmacy was one of the first pharmacies to volunteer to participate in the Tennessee Pharmacists Research and Education Foundation Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation Diabetes Patient Care project, which resulted in significant improvement in patients served through the program. In addition, Wilhoit pursued Diabetes Accreditation Standards Practical Application (DASPA) recognition for his pharmacy, making it the first community pharmacy to achieve that recognition in the Knoxville area. Wilhoit has developed his own educational offering called "Rescue A1C" now offered through his pharmacy for people with diabetes. Mac's Pharmacy was an early adapter and provider of Medication Therapy Management and immunization services for the pharmacy's patients. Wilhoit also developed and implemented a free children's vitamin program for young people in his community.

As a result of Wilhoit's innovative efforts and practices, Mac's Pharmacy received the Cardinal Health Award for Leading Change in Community Pharmacy in 2014 and was named one of three finalists in the Cardinal Health Independent Pharmacy Best Practices Competition. In May 2015 the pharmacy was named one of three finalists for the Small Business Excellence Award as part of the Knoxville Pinnacle Awards, an award presented to an East Tennessee small business for demonstrating customer loyalty and operational efficiency in delivery of products and services.

Wilhoit is actively involved in the pharmacy profession at both the state and national level. He is a member of the Tennessee Pharmacists Association and served as chair of the Tennessee Society of Independent Pharmacists (TSIP) in 2011-2012. He continues to serve as a TSIP delegate to the TPA House of Delegates. Nationally, he is involved with the National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA) and has been a member of the NCPA Resolutions Committee for several years as well as a TPA delegate to the NCPA House. Wilhoit also supports the development of future pharmacists

as a preceptor for the University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy, East Tennessee State University Bill Gatton College of Pharmacy, and South College School of Pharmacy.

In addition to his pharmacy-related contributions, Wilhoit has a sustained record of community service through his involvement with a variety of local organizations and causes. He has served as an active volunteer with the Knoxville Chapter of the American Diabetes Association (ADA) and is the 2015 chair of the Knoxville ADA Step Out Walk campaign. He was also selected as the 2012 ADA Local Champion of the Step Out Walk to Stop Diabetes. Wilhoit has been actively involved in supporting schools in his community and has coached youth basketball and baseball teams. He is a member of the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Knoxville and has served as a Eucharistic Minister, usher, and volunteer leader for over 20 years. He is a former member of the Knights of Columbus service organization.

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.

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 Web site www.naspa.us.