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Hiawatha, Kansas Pharmacist, Leland Hansen, Honored for Outstanding Community Service

Washington, DC – The Kansas Pharmacists Association (KPhA) has selected Leland Hansen as the recipient of the 2013 Bowl of Hygeia Award for outstanding community service. Hansen was presented with the award during the KPhA Annual Meeting and Trade Show, September 20-22, 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.

Hansen was the first full-time pharmacist of the Hiawatha Hospital. Hanson converted the previously nurse-run hospital pharmacy to a unit dose system that was individually set up for each patient. His involvement with KU is extensive and includes financial support for the new school of pharmacy, member of the Dean's Club, preceptor for the KU School of Pharmacy.

Hansen is involved with Relay for Life, Brown County Genealogical Society, Hiawatha Camp of Gideon's International, Hiawatha Foundation for Economic Development and Brown County Coordinator for KU Honors Program. Hansen is a lifetime member of the Zion Lutheran Church and has served in the following positions: high school Sunday School teacher, Lutheran League Sponsor, church council (numerous times), council president, Parrish Council, and member of the choir. Hansen has also served the youth of Hiawatha as a softball coach, mentored high school students in work study programs and sponsored local little league softball teams. Hansen is a member of the Jaycees, Hiawatha Tree Board (City of Maples), Brown County Fair Board, Lifelong 4H Member, NEK Multi-county Board of Health, Brown County Developmental Services Advisory Board, Brown County Historical Society, Hiawatha High School Booster Club, Board Member Hiawatha Country Club and a Board Member Hiawatha Area Arts & Theater Society.

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.

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.

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 Web site www.naspa.us.