

For Immediate Release:



Honoring Those That Have Made a Difference in Health

Richmond, VA. (September 19, 2018): The Virginia Association of Free and Charitable Clinics' (VAFCC) is celebrating its 25th Anniversary of providing essential advocacy, support and resources to the Commonwealth's free and charitable clinics at its Annual Conference this October 21-23 in Fairfax, Virginia. More importantly, it will also be honoring those that have made a difference with VAFCC's Champions of Health Care awards program.

The centerpiece of the anniversary, the Champions of Health Care is a celebration of Virginia's health safety net and the awards program is intended to recognize leaders in the community who have made and continue to make a true impact on the health and quality of life in Virginia. The inaugural Champions of Health Care awards program occurred in 2013 for their 20th Anniversary Celebration and is held every five years.

2018 Champions of Health Care

Leadership Champion

Jen Stowers
Free Clinic of Central Virginia

Administrative Champion presented by
Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Assoc.

Wendy Edwards
Fauquier Free Clinic

Clinical Champion presented by
Medical Society of Virginia

Pamela Witt
Western Tidewater Free Clinic

Behavioral Health Champion presented by
Magellan Complete Care

Lauren McCauley
Sinclair Health Clinic

Pharmaceutical Champion presented by
Rx Outreach

Eugene Triplett
Free Clinic of Culpeper

Dental Champion presented by
DentaQuest

David Crouse
Park Place Dental

Funding Champion presented by
Mutual of America

Ann Quinn
Gloucester Mathews Care Clinic

Corporate Champion presented by
Kaiser Permanente

Kaléo
Bradley Free Clinic

“On behalf of our 60 member clinics and the more than 60,000 uninsured, indigent patients served by them, VAFCC wishes to express our sincere appreciation to our Champions of Health Care for generously sharing their time, talents, and resources with the Commonwealth’s free clinics,” states Linda D. Wilkinson, VAFCC CEO. “They are very much true champions of health care, unselfishly serving working men and women in Virginia who have chronic diseases, yet no health insurance.”

In addition to the eight honorees named here, VAFCC will also announce two additional Champions of Health Care honorees at the banquet:

- Legislative Champion – honoring an individual legislator (past or present) who has demonstrated a commitment to health care through the introduction and support of bills that benefit patients served by clinics.
- Commonwealth Champion – honoring an organization who has demonstrated excellence in organization growth and sustainability in order to provide health care solutions that best fulfill the needs of their community.

Tickets are available for purchase to the Champions of Health Care Awards Program and 25th Anniversary Banquet on Sunday, October 21st at the Fairfax Marriott at Fair Oaks from 6:30-9:00pm for \$75. The event will also feature nationally renowned speaker, Allison Massari who will speak on the “Transforming Patient Lives and The Art of Person-Centered Care”. Voted a 2017 top 25 speaker and making M&C Magazine’s “Best Keynote Speakers” list three years in a row, Allison is a leading educator on the power of compassionate care.

To learn more about VAFCC, the Champions of Health Care, and their Annual Conference, please visit www.VaFreeClinics.org.

About VAFCC:

For a quarter of a century, VAFCC has been the only nonprofit organization whose mission is focused solely on the issues and needs of free and charitable clinics -- and the patients they serve in Virginia. In that time, VAFCC has provided essential advocacy, support and resources to the Commonwealth’s free and charitable clinics, helping to ensure Virginia’s medically underserved have access to quality health care. Virginia’s 60 free and charitable clinics play the critical role of providing quality health care to Virginia’s most vulnerable. They are best able to fill gaps in health care through their ability to adapt and adjust their community-based clinical services to meet community-specific needs of unique and diverse localities.

VAFCC's Annual Conference is the premier educational and networking meeting for Virginia’s free and charitable clinics and their safety net partners and advocates. This year's conference will be geared towards providing professional development and insight on operational and administration topics that will be impacted by impending Medicaid expansion as well as innovative programs and best practices for patient care.

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