

Contact:
[Media Contact](#) 919-483-2140

**Public Health Dentist Recognized for Lifetime Work with
NC GlaxoSmithKline Foundation Child Health Recognition Award**

- Award Recipient Focuses on Preventive Care for Children -

Asheville, NC – Elizabeth Krzysztoforska, DDS, also known as Dr. K., has spent her professional career giving back in appreciation for the opportunities given her when she moved to the United States from Poland many years ago. She established the Children’s Dental Health Center to serve children with little or no access to dental care in Alamance County, she has been recognized with the Lifetime Achievement Recognition Award in the North Carolina GlaxoSmithKline Foundation’s 2017 Child Health Recognition Awards program.

The Children’s Dental Health Center is unusual in that it is a self-sustaining public health dental clinic. At the center, Dr. K. has focused on three areas of evidence-based preventive strategies: dental sealants, fluoride varnishes and nutritional counseling. She works with children as young as 1 year old, with a heavy emphasis on parent education and fluoride applications. She believes in establishing a long-term dental home for public health patients, and now children who were served by the clinic are bringing their own children in for dental care!

As an adjunct faculty member at the UNC Dental School, Dr. K. has helped to mentor and train fourth-year dental students with rotations in the clinic, giving them valuable work experience in pediatric dentistry.

The Awards Program

The awards are designed to showcase exceptional and innovative programs that improve the lives of North Carolina’s children. This year’s awards focus on programs that address evidenced-based issues of particular significance to the community being served and working in partnership with others to help improve health outcomes for children. Key focus areas include asthma, dental health, environmental health (healthy homes), immunizations, low birth weight, mental health, nutrition and substance abuse, including drugs, alcohol and tobacco.

All nominees were recognized and award recipients announced at a ceremony today in Asheville during the North Carolina Public Health Association’s (NCPHA) fall meeting. The **Lifetime Achievement Award** is given to individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to improving children’s health services through a series of achievements over a period of time.

The North Carolina GlaxoSmithKline Foundation Child Health Recognition Awards were established in 1994 to honor local health departments, public health staff and individual citizens for their dedication to improving child health. The awards include monetary grants for educational and other purposes. A Selection Committee of healthcare professionals established by NCPHA chose the award recipients.

Other recipients of the 2017 NC GlaxoSmithKline Foundation Child Health Recognition Awards are:

Individual Achievement Recognition

- Sarcanda Green, RN; MESH Coordinator, Wilkes County Health Department

Public Health Staff Recognition

- Debbie Biggerstaff, Innovative Approaches Coordinator, Cabarrus Health Alliance

Local Health Department Recognition

- Gaston County Department of Health & Human Services, Substance Treatment And Rehabilitation Program (STAR)
- Guilford County Department of Health & Human Services, JustTEENS
- Madison County Health Department, Madison Substance Awareness Coalition

The North Carolina GlaxoSmithKline Foundation supports activities that help meet the educational and health needs of today's society and future generations. The Foundation focuses on programs that emphasize the understanding and application of health, science and education at all academic and professional levels.

#