

View results

Respondent

8

Anonymous

05:08

Time to complete

Nominee Details

1. Name of Nominee *

Dr. Karen H Harum

2. Name (as you wish it to appear on award) *

Karen H Harum, MD

3. Home Address *

8822 Brantwood Ct

4. City *

Wilmington

5. Zip Code *

28411

6. Phone Number *

9104310054

7. Email Address *

harumk@clinicforspecialchildren.net

Listing of Qualifications

8. Please provide a brief description (maximum 300 words) of the qualifications of the nominee for this award. Give specific information about the nominee's activities in improving the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, including examples of significant contributions and leadership.

Please include the following:

- List nominee's advocacy experience
- Areas of strength/experience/achievements in the field of intellectual or other developmental disabilities.
- List nominee's volunteer experience

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Dr. Harum advocates for people with I/DD in a direct way by advocating for the best care for her patients --- whether that be to the parents/guardians, other providers through care collaboration, or by reaching out to state run facilities that are overcrowded, overburdened, and ultimately failing the kids who need them. Sometimes the best path forward for a patient is a scary one that parents (+ even the patient themselves) are afraid of, or don't understand, and she will sacrifice as much time and resources as needed to help ensure patients are choosing the best care that will improve their quality of life. Advocating for patients, who most times can't even speak for themselves, is what she does all day long in her exam room. She works 7 days a week and is on call 24/7 for per patients. They are never alone because she is always looking out for them.

Dr. Harum is double board certified in general pediatrics and Neurodevelopmental Disabilities and has worked in this field for 30+ years. She is a MAPS fellow and has her own private practice (Clinic for Special Children) dedicated to integrative pediatrics and specialty care in Wilmington. She works tirelessly to ensure her patient families are fully informed, does independent research, and has developed her own protocols for treatments. Her strength is her passion and how much dedication she has to this community. When medicaid cuts continue to happen that put her clinic in financial risk, she works 10x harder to ensure she can continue to care for these children/adults with disabilities. There is always a new program or service being developed (or adapted from existing therapies) with their benefit in mind. At her clinic she has everything from diagnostic programs for ASD + ADHD, comprehensive consultations for a wide range of disabilities (CP, Down Syndrome, ASD, ADHD, Sickle Cell, Rhetts, Fragile X, etc), infusion protocols, HBOT, Direct care membership plans, medicinal kits and her own apothecary line (Clinic Naturals), and other therapeutics (including detox footbaths, alpha stim, Play Attention, Behavior Intervention Sessions, etc).

Dr. Harum has developed a non-profit (Therapize) to operate alongside her clinic which provides free/low cost programs to people with disabilities. The nonprofit does have its own events like Haircuts and Hayrides and Quiet Santa, but also funds other organizations when they are already meeting community needs. She has partnered with Power Up Therapy and Coastal Buds most recently.

Supporting Information

Identify **three (3) individuals** who have knowledge of the efforts of the nominee.

NOTE: It is encouraged that individuals submit a short statement (maximum 300 words) in support of the nominee. Statements should include specific examples of work the nominee has done to influence positive change in the lives of people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities.

9. **Individual 1** - Please provide the following information:

- Full Name
- City
- Zip
- Phone, and
- Email Address

Please see next question for short statement submission.

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Misty Grow
Wilmington, NC 28403
770-710-9070
mgrow24@gmail.com

10. **Individual 1** - Please provide a short supporting statement of why this nominee should be the recipient of the NC Leadership Achievement Award.

*If sending an attachment via email, please write "Sending supporting documents via email" in the text box. Please submit your supporting documents by July 10, 2024 to awards@nccdd.org and include the name of the Award and Nominee in the Subject Line (Example: Leadership Award Documents - John Doe) **

Dr. Harum's work has a direct impact on people with I/DD and their health and behavioral gains and outcomes. She has improved quality of life for so many individuals in our community and has patients travel to her from all around the country/world. This fact alone is enough reason to view her as a leader for advocacy and shows she influences positive change in the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Her work impacts families significantly by providing diagnostics, treatment, and hope to families who have loved ones with moderate to severe health conditions and behaviors. This requires a high level of care coordination and medication management.

It is obvious from her credentials and experience that she is an expert in her field, but that is not what makes her special. No matter how many long grueling hours Dr. Harum has worked, she always makes time to prioritize the stability of her patients and anyone lucky enough to work with her sees her dedication to helping children. She has devoted her entire professional career to helping families find as much relief from their (often devastating) situations and has sacrificed so much in her personal life to do so. Dr. Harum goes above and beyond by always being available and willing to fiercely advocate for her patients when they are not receiving the services they need from state funded programs and therapies. Patients often describe her as "their Savior." Dr. Harum is a genuine, kind hearted, and giving person, but the most inspiring thing about her is her ability to have faith in healing even the most broken of children and to fight for her patients even as they experience setbacks. She never takes no for an answer. She endlessly seeks out the answers to her patients ailments, she is always researching and developing new protocols and programs for innovative treatment of their conditions, and she often does this at her own financial expense when her patients are not able to on their own. In the recent months this has become more frequent as changes in the Medicaid Insurance programs have left her feeling as though physicians needs are being forgotten about. When she is not treating patients at the Clinic, she spends her "free time" working for her Non-Profit Organization, Therapize, designed in her own words to "help bring free therapeutic programs to the families affected by special needs children in our community, in a fun way." Her unwavering dedication to finding solutions for the special needs population is why she is immensely deserving of recognition and celebration.

11. **Individual 2** - Please provide the following information:

- Full Name
- City
- Zip
- Phone, and
- Email Address

Please see next question for short statement submission.

*

Mackenzie Taylor
Wilmington, NC 28403
252-229-5453
mackenzie.taylor000@gmail.com

12. **Individual 2** - Please provide a short supporting statement of why this nominee should be the recipient of the NC Leadership Achievement Award.

If sending an attachment via email, please write "Sending supporting documents via email" in the text box. Please submit your supporting documents by July 10, 2024 to awards@nccdd.org and include the name of the Award and Nominee in the Subject Line (Example: Leadership Award Documents - John Doe)

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I work directly for Dr. Harum and see on a daily basis just how much she loves and cares for people with I/DD. She has let me work to the highest of my own abilities to do behavior intervention for her patients and is always open to new ideas we bring to the table. She fosters the best qualities in every person, regardless of ability, and finds a way to bring that out to the light. Dr. Harum is the best doctor I have ever met and is a pioneer in the field. Back when she made the decision to work in Medicine (80s/90s) the acceptance of women in medicine was just starting, and she made the decision to work in a specialty (Neurodevelopmental Disabilities) that was newly emerging. She has taken her passion for the I/DD community to new levels every year and continuously spends time learning new things to help her patients. She does expansive research for her patients looking at genetics, hormones, and many factors impacting their overall needs.

13. **Individual 3** - Please provide the following information:

- Full Name
- City
- Zip
- Phone, and
- Email Address

*Please see next question for short statement submission. **

Skylar Holt
Wilmington, NC 28412
910-336-0874
skylar.holt50@gmail.com

14. **Individual 3** - Please provide a short supporting statement of why this nominee should be the recipient of the NC Leadership Achievement Award.

*If sending an attachment via email, please write "Sending supporting documents via email" in the text box. Please submit your supporting documents by July 10, 2024 to awards@nccdd.org and include the name of the Award and Nominee in the Subject Line (Example: Leadership Award Documents - John Doe) **

Dr. Harum never gives up on anyone. She finds a way to bring even small gains to the patients who are so severely impacted by disability there seems to be no hope. The community of Wilmington North Carolina is extremely lucky to have her expertise right here in their own back yard. People with disabilities often have to travel far distances to get a consultation with a doctor of her caliber and her work has touched the lives of many people in this community and surrounding communities.

Personal References

Identify three (3) individuals as personal references who may be contacted to help evaluate the qualifications of the nominee.

15. **Individual 1** - Please provide the following information:

- Full Name
- Phone
- Email Address

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Margaret Pietruczuk, NP
312-402-1522
gosia502@yahoo.com

16. **Individual 2** - Please provide the following information:

- Full Name
- Phone
- Email Address

*

Bethany Krek, SLP
301-331-1335
bethanykrek@anchoredtherapyservices.com

17. **Individual 3** - Please provide the following information:

- Full Name
- Phone
- Email Address

*

Fia Binford
330-931-9899
fiabinford@gmail.com

Nominator Information

18. Full Name *

Misty Grow

19. Title/Relationship to the nominee *

Practice Manager at Clinic for Special Children / Professional

20. Email *

mgrow@clinicforspecialchildren.net

21. Organization (if applicable):

Clinic for Special Children

22. Street Address *

1625 17th St Apt 106

23. City *

Wilmington

24. Zip Code *

28401

25. Phone Number *

770-710-9070

26. Email Address *

mgrow24@gmail.com

27.

I've read and followed the submission guidelines for my application to be considered for the 2024 Advocacy and Leadership Awards. I understand my application will not be considered if the following documents are not completed or submitted to NCCDD by July 10, 2024.

- Section 1: Completed Nominee Information
- Section 2: Completed with Listing of Qualifications
- Section 3: Completed with Short Statements of Support
- Section 4: Completed Personal References
- Submitted ON OR PRIOR TO, Wednesday, July 10, 2024.

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- Section 1: Completed Nominee Information
- Section 2: Completed 'Listing of Qualifications'
- Section 3: Completed 'Short Statements of Support' (emailed to awards@nccdd.org)
- Section 4: Completed Personal References
- Submitted on or Prior to Wednesday, July 10, 2024