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## PSSNY Announces 2018 Annual Awards and Honors at Awards 2018 Annual Convention

### John Westerman, Jr, RPh Honored with Bowl of Hygeia Award



*Albany, NY – (June 29 2018)* The Pharmacists Society of the State of New York (PSSNY) honored John Westerman, Jr, RPh of Newburg, New York, with the Bowl of Hygeia award at this weekend's Annual Convention.

The Bowl of Hygeia Award is presented annually to a PSSNY member for his/her outstanding record of community service. It is the most prestigious award that PSSNY bestows.

Westerman has always played an active role in his community and especially for the profession of pharmacy. He currently serves as Chair of the New York State Board of Pharmacy and stays up to date on key initiatives to understand what is affecting pharmacists, as well as understanding legislation that is affecting the pharmacy profession. He is a past PSSNY president and remains an integral part of PSSNY. He is also a liaison for the NYSDOH PAC committee for the pharmacists of the state of New York.

Westerman has participated in and supported community health fairs, annual events conducted by the Greater Hudson Valley Family Health Center (Cornerstone) in the city of Newburgh, NY. These events promote disease state and wellness education in a family-friendly venue. He has supported the National Night Out event in the city of Newburgh. This is an annual event to foster increased cooperation and improved relations between police officers. He also supports the St. Patrick's Soup Kitchen and Catholic Charities.

He has worked to increase awareness of the opioid abuse problem by participating in community town hall-style forums organized by the NYS Senate. He has collaborated with community leaders, law enforcement personnel, substance abuse treatment, and other stakeholders.

*"John Westerman's service to his profession and his community is unparalleled. PSSNY has worked with John to better patient care and community pharmacy for years. We are honored to be able to acknowledge him for his dedication to the profession with this prestigious Bowl of Hygeia award,"* said Debbi Barber, PSSNY President.

## Karl Fiebelkorn Awarded the 2018 Generation Rx Champions Award



*Albany, NY – (June 29, 2018)* The Pharmacists Society of the State of New York (PSSNY) recently honored Karl Fiebelkorn, MBA, RPh, of Getzville, New York, the 2018 [Generation Rx](#) Champions Award at its annual convention for his outstanding work in fighting prescription drug misuse.

The award, presented by the Cardinal Health Foundation and PSSNY, recognizes a pharmacist who has demonstrated excellence in community-based prescription drug abuse prevention. Generation Rx Champions also

receive a \$500 donation to the charity of his/her choice. More than 200 pharmacists across the country have been named Generation Rx Champions since the award was initiated in 2010.

Prescription medication misuse continues to be a significant public health issue across the country. Every day, more than 5,700 people ages 12 and older misuse a prescription pain medication for the first time, according to the [2015 National Survey on Drug Use and Health](#), and nearly 54% of those who misuse prescription painkillers get them from a friend or relative.

"As trusted healthcare providers, pharmacists are uniquely positioned to play a key role in fighting the epidemic of prescription drug misuse," says Betsy Walker, director of Community Relations at Cardinal Health and co-director of [Generation Rx](#). "In that role, Karl has demonstrated great commitment to his community. The Cardinal Health Foundation is honored to join with PSSNY in congratulating and thanking him."

Karl has been involved in multiple DEA drug take back days over many years and involving his students in this community service. He has gone the extra mile, documenting the amount of drugs that are returned on those days, a needed analysis to prove the need for government and manufacturers' involvement.

*"Karl Fiebelkorn is most deserving of this award. His engagement with students of pharmacy and community service are unmatched. He is a motivated individual that is always working for the betterment of the profession and the community,"* said Debbi Barber, PSSNY President.

# Croce Awarded Excellence in Innovation Award



*Albany, NY – (June 29, 2018)* The Pharmacists Society of the State of New York (PSSNY) recently honored John Croce, RPh, of Delmar, New York, the Excellence in Innovation Award at its annual convention.

The Excellence in Innovation Award recognizes and honors a qualified pharmacist who has demonstrated significant innovation in their respective practice, method or service directly or indirectly resulting in improved patient care and/or advancement of the profession of pharmacy.

Croce has developed and implemented programs that both improve patient care and advance the profession of pharmacy.

First, he has implemented a program whereby patients whose prescriptions are delivered are connected to the pharmacy via video counseling. Four Corners delivery drivers initiate the conference during which a pharmacist conducts a live, real-time interaction with the patient for counseling. This encounter ensures the pharmacist communicates necessary information and gives the patient direct access to the pharmacist. The video counseling is innovative and cost effective, utilizing available technology to improve patient care.

Croce has also spearheaded the development of a clinically integrated network in the Capital District, fostering cooperative efforts among health care practitioners to improve patient care and outcomes. One program networks Four Corners Pharmacy with the Visiting Nurses to coordinate the care of a high-risk patient. Multiple nursing visits, some of which are unpaid, result from incomplete or misunderstood medication regimens. A goal of the program is to reduce the number of home visits made by the nurses. This goal has been met by opening communication channels with the nurses, synchronizing medications so all prescriptions are filled and delivered before the first scheduled home visit, and in some cases, compliance packaging. This program improves patient care and outcomes and has resulted in a best practice and advancement of the profession. Another program, in cooperation with the Alliance for Better Health, includes two components: transition of care upon hospital discharge, and counseling of asthmatic patients to reduce the use of rescue inhalers. This program falls under the NYS Medicaid DSRIP program which encourages innovation in practice to improve patient outcomes.

*"Croce's efforts have raised the profile of pharmacists and pharmacy services with other health care providers and have resulted in improved patient care. He is an excellent ambassador for the profession of pharmacy and is most deserving of this award,"* said Debbi Barber, PSSNY President.

# DeLucenay Awarded 2018 Distinguished Young Pharmacist Award



*Albany, NY – (June 29, 2018)* The Pharmacists Society of the State of New York (PSSNY) recently honored Alexander DeLucenay, PharmD, of Rochester, New York, the Pharmacists Mutual Companies' 2018 Distinguished Young Pharmacist Award at its annual convention.

The Distinguished Young Pharmacist Award was created in 1987 to encourage newer pharmacists to become involved in association activities and community service. This award recognizes one pharmacist in each state for individual excellence and outstanding contributions.

DeLucenay has a passion for underserved populations and working with chronic disease states. At his practice site the outpatient clinics of Rochester General Hospital, he participates in interdisciplinary team-based management of various disease states including diabetes, hypertension, and anticoagulation. He has developed a collaborative drug therapy management protocol with attending physicians at his site, allowing for the co-managing of chronic disease states by permitting him to write prescriptions for both medications as well as related labs.

Alex is a member of the Pharmacy Society of Rochester Board of Directors and serves the profession through legislative advocacy, and mentoring students in advocacy. In addition, he has organized and personally made numerous "mission" trips to Central American to care for less fortunate patients.

*"Alex DeLucenay's passion and dedication to community pharmacy is extraordinary. Alex is truly an exemplary pharmacist, driving the advancement of our profession through patient care and very deserving of the recognition," said Debbi Barber, PSSNY President.*

## Moore Awarded Jack Nicolais Award



*Albany, NY – (June 29, 2018)* The Pharmacists Society of the State of New York (PSSNY) recently honored Steve Moore, PharmD of Plattsburgh, New York, the Jack Nicolais Award at its annual convention.

PSSNY presents this honor to a pharmacist that exhibits a favorable impression of pharmacy or of a pharmacist to the public and has performed service to the profession of pharmacy or to a pharmacy organization that has aided in the preservation or advancement of community pharmacy.

As a pharmacy owner, Moore interacts with the public both through his professional practice, and as a member of the business community. He projects a positive attitude, and actively seeks solutions to issues affecting his patients. Moore serves both the profession and PSSNY admirably. He conducts outreach to legislators and community leaders to explain pharmacy issues, and to fight the good fight for the betterment of pharmacy as a whole. His dedication to PSSNY is reflected in the countless hours he volunteers and devotes to the organization, including accepting the responsibility of leadership positions.

Moore is spearheading the development of a clinically integrated network throughout the Capital District and upstate New York. This novel concept, which focuses on patient care and improved outcomes through interdisciplinary practice, requires forward thinking and innovation. His efforts are moving pharmacy beyond a dispensing role and into a patient care role and are being recognized by patients and other members of the health care team. An example of his innovative thinking is the establishment of a program whereby Steve meets with patients in a physician's office to conduct an "all wellness visit" encompassing medication management, lifestyle and wellness issues.

Moore displays a high level of compassion for his patients, peers and community. He looks to develop programs that not only grow his business but expand his profession. His patient is always in the forefront of his mind. He focuses on improving patients' health through numerous initiatives for example Community Pharmacy Enhanced Services Network (CPESN). He is very driven to not only improve the health of his customers but to assist in the process of lowering overall healthcare costs. He has a great deal of knowledge and is never afraid to share with his peers. He strives for success in everything he does. He is very legislatively involved always pushing for the betterment of our profession. Steve's positive, "can-do" attitude, hard work, innovation and professionalism make him very deserving of the Spirit of Pharmacy Award.

*"Steve Moore's Clinically Integrative Network programs elevates the profile of the community pharmacist and demonstrates the services a pharmacist can offer to positively impact patient outcomes. PSSNY is proud to honor Moore for his outstanding professionalism," said Debbi Barber, PSSNY President.*

*The Pharmacists Society of the State of New York (PSSNY) has served as the society for the state's pharmacists for more than 138 years. Its mission is to unite pharmacists for mutual assistance, encouragement, and improvement in order to maintain the standard of pharmacy practice at a high professional and ethical level. To learn more about PSSNY, visit [www.PSSNY.org](http://www.PSSNY.org).*