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## **Arizona Medical Association Honors 2020 Healthcare Award Recipients**

**Phoenix, Arizona** — The Arizona Medical Association (ArMA) announced the recipients of its 2020 Healthcare Awards on Tuesday, September 1, 2020. The recipients will be recognized for their achievements and contributions to ArMA and the Arizona healthcare community in the following days and weeks, including at ArMA's virtual annual meeting on Saturday, September 12, 2020.

"As we continue to deal with these uniquely challenging times, the contributions made by this year's award recipients show us what hard work and compassion can do for our communities," said Ross Goldberg, MD, FACS, ArMA President, "Arizona is proud to have such spirited and proactive individuals fighting to make this state a healthier place for all of its residents."

### **David O. Landrith Humanitarian Award – Vicki Copeland, MD**

The David O. Landrith Humanitarian Award recognizes programs or individuals who go above and beyond their given profession to selflessly help underserved communities receive medical care and other services that lead to the betterment of their lives. This year's recipient, **Dr. Vicki Copeland**, has provided many years of service to Arizona communities by serving on the board of directors of Ability360, which promotes the independent living philosophy and provides athletic and sporting event opportunities for people living with disabilities. She is also a volunteer physician preceptor for Street Medicine Phoenix and has volunteered with St. Vincent de Paul clinics and with Habitat for Humanity as a team leader. Including her work with the St. Mary's Food Bank Alliance and The Human Services Campus, she has served in leadership roles at non-profit organizations in Arizona for over 15 years. Dr. Copeland is the living blueprint for the empathetic practice of medicine.

### **ArMA Distinguished Service Award – Banner-University Medicine Whole Health Clinic**

The ArMA Distinguished Service Award recognizes those individuals or organizations that have gone above and beyond in their profession, making a significant impact on the community. This year's award was presented to the **Banner-University Medicine Whole Health Clinic**. The Whole Health Clinic provides comprehensive behavioral and primary health care for adults in Arizona. Whole Health Clinic members get the expert care and support they need in a respectful, welcoming, safe, and encouraging setting. The Whole Health Clinic is also home to the EPICenter. Unique in Southern Arizona. The EPICenter is a specialized program for people between 15 and 35 years old who are experiencing early symptoms of a psychotic illness. The center is effective in helping to reduce symptoms and improving the quality of life for members and their families.

### **Award in Memory of Edward Sattenspiel, MD – Charles Daschbach, MD**

This award is given in memory of Edward Sattenspiel, MD, a former ArMA president and champion for healthcare in Arizona, in recognition of an individual's long-term commitment to organized medicine. In honor of his demonstrated commitment to organized medicine, this year's award recipient is **Dr. Charles Daschbach**. By mentoring countless medical professionals involved in continuing medical education (CME) and medical leadership throughout Arizona, Dr. Daschbach has been an extraordinary example of collaborative, congenial and effective leadership over the course of his decades long career. Dr. Daschbach was the director of medical education and chief of academic

affairs at St. Joseph's Hospital for over 30 years, growing the academic activities of that institution dramatically until his recent retirement. Over the last 17 years, he served as chair of the ArMA's CME accreditation committee, where he dramatically influenced change by creating a collaborative and dynamic oversight committee that represents various stakeholders. Despite retirement, he continues to stay actively involved in organized medicine at many levels.

#### **ArMA Walk the Talk Award – Dr. Pete Wertheim**

The "Walk the Talk" Award recognizes individuals or organizations that go above and beyond in their support of issues impacting medicine and patients. The award was presented to the late **Dr. Pete Wertheim**. Dr. Pete Wertheim spent his entire career advocating for Arizonans, primarily in the field of healthcare. He worked for the Arizona Legislature, the Arizona Department of Health Service, the Arizona Hospital Association, and for the past six years as executive director of Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association. In these roles, he displayed unwavering leadership and strategic direction. He tirelessly advocated for doing what is in the best interests of patients around topics like immunizations, scope of practice issues, surprise billing, end of life initiatives, and so many more. Sadly, Dr. Wertheim was diagnosed with a brain malignancy in December of 2019. Despite aggressive care including surgeries, chemotherapy, and radiation therapy, he succumbed to his illness on May 24, 2020. He fought a hard and valiant battle. Throughout all this Pete was supported and is survived by his wife Dr. Adela Grando. His achievements and legacy will live on for many years to come.

#### **C.H. William Ruhe, MD Award – Flagstaff Medical Center and Tucson Hospitals Medical Education Program**

The C.H. William Ruhe Award recognizes excellence in accredited CME programs in Arizona. This award was presented jointly to the **Flagstaff Medical Center (FMC) and the Tucson Hospitals Medical Education Program (THMEP)** for pioneering continuing medical education curriculum throughout Arizona. ArMA saw a particular impact in the contributions of FMC to CME through its strong collaboration with community partners, including patient-driven breast care, community-driven nutritional education, and rural outreach to native lands in Arizona. Additionally, ArMA recognized the impact of THMEP in its strong collaboration with community health partners on education that addresses health disparities, ethics, and social determinants of health. In each program's unique manner, THMEP and FMC have distinguished themselves as providers of some of the highest quality CME programs in Arizona.

#### **ArMA Public Health Service Award – Aram Mardian, MD, and Lisa Villarroel, MD**

Each year, ArMA and the Arizona Department of Health Services recognize an individual, group of individuals, or educational organization whose contributions to public health have been significant. This year's award was presented jointly to **Dr. Aram Mardian and Dr. Lisa Villarroel**, for being highly engaged in one of the most critical areas of public health over the last year. Drs. Mardian and Villarroel understood that one of the critical strategies in addressing Arizona's opioid crisis was to reframe the clinical approach to pain and addiction. During the declared public health emergency, they embarked on a groundbreaking project, the first in the nation, to develop a comprehensive Pain and Addiction Curriculum. First published in 2018, the Arizona Curriculum on Pain and Addiction represents a large-scale culture shift in the education of the next generation of prescribers. This undergraduate curriculum is a comprehensive, integrative program that seeks to redefine pain and addiction as interlinked, complex, public health processes, requiring interprofessional care and involvement of the community and health-based systems. ArMA looks forward to the work that both Dr. Mardian and Dr. Villarroel will do in the future.

### **Wallace A. Reed, MD Award – Priya Radhakrishnan, MD, FACP**

The Wallace A. Reed, MD Award recognizes innovation in health care of an individual or organization. This year's award was presented to the **Dr. Priya Radhakrishnan**, Chief Academic Officer at HonorHealth. Dr. Priya Radhakrishnan has dedicated her career to medical education and is an award-winning educator whose philosophy centers on integrating the needs of the learner, patient, and community, with those of the health care system. She works in every domain of medical education, to include bedside clinical teaching, curriculum development, undergraduate and graduate medical education, continuing and professional medical education, quality improvement, and advocacy. She has held several leadership positions; she is currently the Governor for the Arizona Chapter for the American College of Physicians and is a Clinical Professor of Medicine at University of Arizona College of Medicine—Phoenix. Dr. Radhakrishnan has also served as Chair of Internal Medicine at St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center. Through her commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion, she has mentored numerous students, residents, and faculty over the course of her exceptional career.

### **ArMA Presidential Award – Libby McDannell, CAE, and Ross Goldberg, MD, FACS**

The National Service Award presented to a physician or other individual who has served as the president of a national or state organization. This year's award was given to two recipients, **Libby McDannell and Dr. Ross Goldberg**.

Libby McDannell is an experienced non-profit leader with an outstanding record of organizational growth and demonstrated ability to energize and positively influence team members and others. Prior to coming to ArMA, Libby served as the CEO & Executive Vice President of the American Society of Transplantation, the largest organization of transplant professionals in North America. She previously served as Executive Director for three other national associations. She has more than 15 years of executive management experience, specifically in the non-profit, healthcare field. As our current CEO, Libby has helped ArMA to reach its highest potential as a statewide leader in the face of the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Dr. Ross Goldberg is a Board-Certified General Surgeon, Vice-Chairman of the Department of Surgery and Specialty Ambulatory Medical Director for Valleywise Health and Associate Professor of Surgery at both the Creighton University School of Medicine and University of Arizona College of Medicine - Phoenix. As ArMA's current president, he shines as an example of top-tier leadership and expertise in times where those qualities are especially needed. Guided by his motto, "Be Bold," Dr. Goldberg plans to continue fighting for the medical community in the decades to come.

### **ArMA Health and Fitness Award – Brynn Sorenson and Lindsey Buckner**

The ArMA Health and Fitness Award recognizes health care-related programs and/or individuals who improve the healthcare of our state's residents. The award was presented jointly to **Brynn Sorenson and Lindsey Buckner**. Brynn and Lindsey coach and manage the Girls on the Run (GOTR) program at Redfield Elementary School in the Scottsdale Unified School District. In doing so, Brynn and Lindsey help empower young girls to be active, while teaching the importance of accepting all women. The Girls on the Run program inspires young women to be confident and champions of their beliefs through being active and engaging in local 5K runs. Each week, over the course of a 10-week program, Brynn and Lindsey teach girls from third through eighth grades the importance of positive body image, healthy decisions, and female empowerment. Through their work, Brynn and Lindsey are helping to fortify the health and wellness of the next generation.

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## **About Arizona Medical Association**

The Arizona Medical Association (ArMA) is the largest organization in the state representing the interests of all physicians. For more than 125 years, ArMA has been advancing patient care and providing its members with leadership, advocacy, education, and networking. For more information, visit [www.AZmed.org](http://www.AZmed.org) and follow ArMA on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#).