Patient Advocacy Community of The Beryl Institute Honors Sheila Brune as 2016 Ruth Ravich Award Recipient

Annual Award Recognizes Contributions, Dedication and Leadership in Patient Advocacy

Dallas, Texas (April 22, 2016) – The Patient Advocacy Community of The Beryl Institute presented Speaker, Consultant and Retired Patient Advocate Sheila Brune with the 2016 Ruth Ravich Award in recognition of her extraordinary contributions to the field of patient advocacy and to fellow patient advocates. Brune was honored with the award at The Beryl Institute’s annual Patient Experience Conference on April 13 in Dallas, Texas.

When Brune’s father died in 2001 as a result of failure to rescue, she made it her goal to ensure the culture changed at hospitals by presenting her story to a variety of audiences and engaged in untiring work to improve communication with families and patients. Brune created the Living History Program, a process for the care delivery team to strengthen connections with patients by engaging them to gather and share basic life information. For the last 16 years, she has taken the Living History Program to hospitals, nursing homes, hospices, home health agencies, rehab centers, Department of Veteran Affairs and universities. Now a retired patient advocate, Brune continues to raise awareness of the patient advocate role and educate the public on how to be good advocates for themselves and for their families.

“Sheila Brune exemplifies patient advocacy as its best. Sheila has used her life experiences to help others understand the power of listening and engaging on a personal level with our patients. In doing this we can better understand their journey and be a crucial part of improving their experience,” said Kim Pedersen, Administrative Director, Patient Relations at MarianJoy Rehabilitation Center and Patient Advocacy Community Executive Team Member. “We are proud to recognize such a deserving individual for her time, service and passion for improving experience within the field of patient advocacy.”

Awarded annually since 1991, the Ruth Ravich Award recognizes individuals whose work supports the vision of bringing the patients’ needs to the center of healthcare. Ruth Ravich was the founder and first president of the Society for Healthcare Consumer Advocacy, now the Patient Advocacy Community of The Beryl Institute. As the profession of Patient Advocacy and patient centered care has evolved, the award has come to also recognize individuals within the Patient Advocacy Community who engage in focused efforts to be of support to fellow Advocates in promoting patient rights and patient centered care.

To learn more about the Patient Advocacy Community of The Beryl Institute, visit http://www.theberylinstitute.org/?page=PAC.

###

About The Beryl Institute:
The Beryl Institute is the global community of practice dedicated to improving the patient experience through collaboration and shared knowledge. We define patient experience as the sum of all interactions, shaped by an organization’s culture, that influence patient perceptions across the continuum of care.