

Priscilla Woodward wins 1st Annual Pam Medina Award

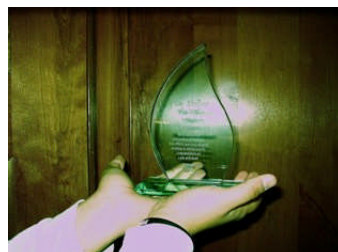


The First Annual Pam Medina Award was presented to Priscilla Woodward of MHCD. The presentation was made by Gary Medina (pictured above), Pam Medina’s husband.

The board faced a very difficult task in choosing the winner. Six outstanding administrative support staff were nominated. Other nominees included: Melisa Bechard, MHCD; Fran Grindle, JCMH; Cynder Nothnagel, JCMH; Kristen Russ, North Range; Meyber Torres, MHCD.

Nominees were judged on their customer service, high quality of work and innovation/best practices.

Please join the Board in giving these outstanding employees a thank you for and CONGRATULATIONS!



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CCMHA Annual Fall Conference:

This year’s conference was a big hit once again. Thank you to everyone who came and contributed to its success! The highest rated sessions were “Cultural Competency,” “Leadership Development” and “Defensive vs. Collaborative Communication.” The “Perception is Everything” was a very close second.

We understand and agree with your comments about the “Identity Theft” session. The information was beneficial; however, the Board had no idea the presenters would use the Conference as a platform to advertise. We apologize to attendees and will strive to scrutinize session content more thoroughly in the future.

We will also make sure speakers have microphones as a few of the presenters were difficult to hear.

However, overall, everyone seemed to enjoy the conference, facilities and networking with other admin staff. A few comments include:

“I really enjoyed it. I will take the information and change my direction and goals for my life.”

- ⇒ “One of the best diversity classes I’ve sat in. Presenter was extremely interesting and knowledgeable.
- ⇒ Learned a lot—good interactions with whole group.
- ⇒ Fantastic humor and passion for topic, love the conversational style.
- ⇒ Excellent—inspirational!
- ⇒ Speaker was knowledgeable and had great stories relatable to life.
- ⇒ Good info, but couldn’t hear in the back.

PLEASE SUBMIT IDEAS TO ONE OF THE BOARD MEMBERS (SEE LAST PAGE) FOR THE MAY, SPRING WORKSHOP.



(left to right) Board members: Arlene Kingsley, Janice Cassady, Pat Dillon

Congratulations MHCD!

The Mental Health Center of Denver is Recognized for Innovation!

The Mental Health Center of Denver (MHCD) recently received several awards for innovative treatment, organizational efficiency and environmental leadership.

The U.S Department of Health and Human Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) prestigious 2009 Science to Service Award went to MHCD's Growth and Recovery Opportunities for Women (GROW) program. This award recognizes exemplary implementation of evidence-based interventions shown to prevent and/or treat mental illnesses and substance abuse. GROW - developed by MHCD specifically to serve Denver's homeless women with histories of trauma, mental illness and substance abuse - won for its multi-faceted use of evidence-based mental health practices and outstanding outcomes.

At intake, 100% of women in the GROW program had a mental illness, were homeless with a substance abuse problem, and had experienced significant trauma. At six month follow-up, 80% had secured permanent housing, 20% were in a stable shelter, and 60% reported abstinence from substance use. The women now have jobs, are attending school, and are parenting their children. Read more at <http://www.samhsa.gov/scienceandservice/cod2009.aspx>.

The Colorado Behavioral Healthcare Council (CBHC) 2009 Golden Abacus Award for Best Practices in the non-clinical arena was awarded to MHCD's Lean Process Improvement in Outpatient Healthcare Project. The project improved efficiency at intake so much that 187 additional individuals were admitted and received much needed services. The Golden Abacus is awarded by CBHC to innovative approaches that are easily replicated at any behavioral healthcare center and result in a superior product or service.

Colorado Environmental Leadership Program Bronze Award went to MHCD for its leadership in social responsibility and its efforts to make Colorado a greener place. MHCD initiated an extensive internal environmental program that included single stream recycling, replacing inefficient fluorescent bulbs with energy efficient compact incandescent lamps, water filters replaced purchasing bottled water and employees were encouraged to use public transportation by providing RTD ECO Passes.

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