

# **Community Service Award 2012 Individual Nominees**

## **Creative Wellness Team**

- Chris Reay
- Irene Savoyat

**T**hese two members of Creative Wellness have offered 22 years of service to the Greater Lansing area, providing massage therapy, chiropractic, and acupuncture services. They have exemplified the small business model and how professionals dedicated to improving health can grow and make an impact on several thousand people in a community. Creative Wellness has an inspired group of individuals employed by Chris Reay and Irene Savoyat. They are dedicated to helping people with severe back pain, relieving stress, promoting relaxation, helping fertility, helping people with chronic pain, and promoting solutions for healthful living.

## **Healthy! Capital Counties (H!CC) Project Planning Staff**

- Anne Barna, MA (Barry-Eaton District Health Department)
- Cassandre Larrieux, MPH (Ingham County Health Department)
- Ross Pope (Mid-Michigan District Health Department)

**T**he H!CC project was made possible because of a provision in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) that provides financial incentives for hospitals to partner with others in the community to conduct health assessments and create community health improvement plans. Throughout the Capital Area community, these three people raised awareness about health planning incentives and showed how they could be used to bring together the hospitals and health departments serving Clinton, Eaton and Ingham counties. The health assessment and improvement plans that resulted are among the most thorough and insightful ever created and have set a new standard in the field.

The significance of the H!CC project is that it lays a foundation for a new way of doing community-based prevention. Under PPACA, these assessment and improvement projects will occur every three years and are intended to lead to ongoing, long-term improvement in community health status. The work of Anne Barna, Cassandre Larrieux, and Ross Pope has positioned our communities to find the road to improved health.

## **Kimberly Singh, MA, CHES**

**K**im Singh has provided over 25 years of public health service to the residents of the Capital Area in particular and Mid-Michigan in general. For the last 16 years, she served as the Health Officer of the Mid-Michigan District Health Department (MMDHD), which is the local public health authority for Clinton County (and also Gratiot and Montcalm). Through her dedicated service, Kim has continually sought to improve the lives of Capital Area and Mid-Michigan residents, leaving a legacy of accomplishment. The Capital Area—indeed the entire state—benefitted from Kim’s leadership at the state level. She worked closely with legislators to ensure fiscal support for public health and preventive services. And she helped drive quality improvement in public health services through her leadership role on the Board of Michigan’s Local Public Health Accreditation Commission. Under her leadership, the Accreditation Commission became one of the national champions of the emerging model of national accreditation created by the Public Health Accreditation Board.

Ms. Singh recently retired from MMDHD and is working as the Director of Community and Government Affairs for the Michigan Community Dental Clinics, Inc. (MCDC). She will continue to be an advocate in her new role and will continue enhancing the lives of many through increased access to dental services throughout Michigan.

Kim Singh has earned the admiration and respect of her friends and colleagues during her service in public health. She is a strong leader that has the talent of combining resources and services, as well as collaborating with community partners to address unmet needs. Through Kim Singh’s accomplishments, the lives of many Clinton County residents have been positively impacted. The mark that she has left on this community will be everlasting.