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Four Wisconsin Communities Presented with Rural Health Awards

All Part of National Rural Health Day on Thursday, November 15th

For Immediate Release

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(Madison, Wisconsin) — The Wisconsin Office of Rural Health applauds the innovation, quality of care, and dedication of health professionals and volunteers in Wisconsin's rural communities during Rural Health Day, a state and national celebration that recognizes the efforts of those serving the health needs of over 60 million people across the nation. Today, we are proud to announce that rural health projects in four Wisconsin communities have won awards in honor of Rural Health Day.

An organization in Forest County was recognized by the National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health (NOSORH) as [one of seventy national Community Stars](#) for its collaborative work to advance rural health in the Rhinelander community. The "Ties That Bind Us" organization has worked to raise educational awareness about cancer, held anti-smoking campaigns, offered free lung cancer screenings in the community, and hosted events to promote healthy lifestyles. The group is also lauded for its efforts to improve the lives of those struggling with cancer. Learn more about the [Community Star Award](#).

In addition, The Wisconsin Office of Rural Health has awarded three [Outstanding Contribution to Rural Health Awards](#) to community efforts throughout the state this month.

In Merrill, Ascension Good Samaritan Hospital was recognized for igniting community coalitions on oral health, nutrition, mental health, and substance abuse, and for providing a home for community resource agencies through the Menard Center. In Ladysmith, Mary Schneider, RNC-CEN, was applauded for her excellence as a nurse at Marshfield Medical Center-Ladysmith, and for her volunteerism and fundraising for emergency service providers, contribution to the community, and mentorship of others. In Adams, A-F County Market was lauded for a "Veggie Voucher" program that's providing low-income residents with opportunities for fresh food.

For more information about these awards, visit our website at <http://worh.org/rural-health-day>, or contact Communications Coordinator Chali Pittman at 608-261-1884 or cpittman@wisc.edu.

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The Wisconsin Office of Rural Health works to improve the access to, and quality of, rural health care.