



DOUGLAS COUNTY
HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

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**NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK
LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH HEROES TO BE RECOGNIZED**

National Public Health Week is April 6-12, 2009. Douglas County Health & Social Services will celebrate this observance by honoring people who are working to build a foundation for a healthy Douglas County. Public Health is all around us – in the clean water we drink, at immunization clinics, and in programs and services that keep our communities safe and healthy. “Throughout the year we hear about individuals and groups who have gone above and beyond to promote or protect the health of communities throughout Douglas County,” said Peggy Kennerly. “Public Health Week is an opportunity to recognize the contributions made by individuals and organizations in our community.”

The Public Health Hero Awards will be presented during the regularly scheduled meeting of the Douglas County Board of Commissioners at 9:00 A.M. on Wednesday, April 8, in Room 216 of the Douglas County Courthouse. The public is invited to attend.

The 2009 Public Health Heroes are:

- Business:** KPIC-TV, for continued support of alcohol, tobacco and other drug prevention efforts in Douglas County.
- Community Organization:** UCAN Head Start, for contribution to child development services for Douglas County’s lowest income children and their families
- Community Member:** Dick Schuldt & Beulah Schuldt, RN, for dedication to providing immunizations to Douglas County’s most vulnerable and underserved residents -- children, the elderly, and people who are homebound or living in foster care.
- Health & Social Services:** Janet Holland, Mental Health Director, for her commitment to building a mental health system that can respond to the needs of Douglas County residents.

- Douglas County Program:** Douglas County Residential Sharps Container Exchange Program, for helping to ensure safe disposal of residential sharps containers at the Douglas County landfill and transfer sites. Douglas County landfill sites collected 965 residential sharps containers in 2008, amounting to approximately 157,580 1 cc syringes.
- Public Health Leadership:** Mel Cheney, Director of the Community Cancer Center, for over 30 years of cancer services and commitment to improving accessibility to cancer care for Douglas County residents.
- Future Public Health Hero:** Kelsea Bittner, Roseburg High School Senior, for her hard work and commitment to her education, her community, and a promising future in healthcare.

Media Opportunity

Public Health Heroes awards will be presented at the beginning of the Board of Commissioners meeting on April 8. Awardees will leave the meeting immediately following the presentation of all awards so that regular business of the Board of Commissioner may resume. The news media are invited to interview awardees in the Courthouse foyer immediately following the presentations.