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### Five from Confluence Health Honored with 2024 Champion of Public Health Awards

**Wenatchee, WA:** Three staff members and two providers at Confluence Health were recently honored with the 2024 Champions of Public Health Award, presented by the Chelan-Douglas Health District (CDHD). This new award, based on nominations from CDHD staff, is presented to local healthcare professionals in recognition of their profound positive impact on public health in the two counties.

To present the awards, the CDHD hosted an event in late March at the LocalTel Events Center in Pybus Public Market to celebrate, recognizing the honorees with speeches and a dinner. Five individuals from Confluence Health were recognized at the event, including Amber Aiken, Carrie Bews, Jess Tyrrell, Dr. Mark Johnson, and Dr. Ahmad Musmar.

Amber Aiken, maternity support services and infant case management (MSS-ICM) case manager, was nominated by the Nurse Family Partnership Team for dedication to connecting clients to valuable community resources. By introducing the program to clients and completing countless referrals, the team noted that she has been an exceptional advocate for the program and essential to its success.

Carrie Bews, lactation coordinator at Confluence Health, was also nominated for the award by the Nurse Family Partnership Team for going above and beyond in her work in lactation education, providing valuable mentorship to the team in supporting clients to reach their breastfeeding goals.

In addition, Jess Tyrrell, dietitian specialist, was nominated as a Champion of Public Health by Quinn Kenoyer, public health dietitian with the CDHD. In the nomination, Kenoyer discussed Tyrrell's commitment to educating Chelan and Douglas counties about nutrition and wellness. Offering her expertise through a weight loss support group each month along with spearheading partnerships throughout the community to promote nutrition, Tyrrell was commended as an amazing community partner.

Two physicians were also recognized for their work in infectious disease. Dr. Mark Johnson, infectious disease physician manager at Confluence Health, was nominated by the Communicable Disease and Epidemiology Team for his dedication to bridging the gap between larger health systems and local public health jurisdictions by enhancing infectious disease services, extending telemedicine support to neighboring counties, and significantly strengthening healthcare access. His nomination also thanked him for his professionalism and collaboration as a valued colleague and trusted advisor.

Additionally, Dr. Ahmad Musmar, infectious disease physician at Confluence Health, was also recognized by the same team for not only managing a busy inpatient service and providing telemedicine support to neighboring counties, but also bringing his expertise and dedication to the betterment of public health. A respected figure in the fight against infectious disease, Dr. Musmar was commended for commitment to excellence and dedication to the community.

"We are incredibly proud to have five amazing individuals recognized for their outstanding contributions, rightly being honored as Champions of Public Health," commented Confluence Health CEO, Dr. Andrew Jones. "Our partnership with the Chelan-Douglas Health District (CDHD) is incredibly important as we work together for the health and wellbeing of the community we serve, and we are grateful for their recognition of the outstanding work our staff and providers contribute to support those goals."

**About Confluence Health**

Confluence Health serves the largest geographic region of any healthcare system in Washington State, covering over 12,000 square miles of Okanogan, Grant, Douglas, and Chelan counties. Confluence Health is one of only two locally-lead healthcare systems in the state with the purpose of maintaining availability and access to high-quality, cost-effective healthcare services for North Central Washington. The Confluence Health Board of Directors provides governance for Confluence Health and includes nine community board members and six physician board members.

**For More Information**

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