



News Release
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**Tri-County Mental Health to Recognize Six for Extraordinary Efforts
Integrated Primary Care and Other Innovations will be featured at the October 19 Event**

LEWISTON, MAINE – At its Annual Meeting on October 19, Tri-County Mental Health Services will recognize six special people for extraordinary efforts on behalf of people with mental illness who have been nominated for the Giving Voice and Inspiration Awards. The recipients of the two Awards will be announced at the event.

The following people have been nominated for the *Giving Voice Award*, which is given to an individual or group of individuals for extraordinary efforts on behalf of the people Tri-County serves:

Gerald Lachapelle, a longtime leader, teacher, and mentor in the field of Substance Abuse in Maine. Gerry has brought effective treatment techniques to Maine that have improved treatment outcomes and saved lives.

Michael Williams, a community leader and dedicated member of the Tri-County Mental Health Services Board of Directors who has provided advocacy, support and untold hours of work on behalf of the agency as its Treasurer.

Trooper Ricki Cote and Trooper Tyler Stevenson of the *Maine State Police*, for extraordinary intervention to prevent a suicide by an individual suffering with mental illness – one instance among many that they approach with empathy, sensitivity and skill.

Nominated for the *Inspiration Award*, given to an employee for excellence and exemplary commitment to serving consumers and advancing the agency's mission are:

Joan Detel, Manager of Residential Services, who is nominated for decades of work on behalf of the severely mentally ill and who inspires other employees to be passionate advocates for their consumers.

Cliff Winn, Program Coordinator at the Social Learning Center in Lewiston, praised for providing quality services for our adult consumers who are managing developmental disabilities.

The keynote speaker is **Wendy Wolf, MD, MPH**, President and CEO of the Maine Health Access Foundation, who will speak about health care reform and opportunities for integrated

care. Tri-County is a leader in Maine's integration efforts, currently working alongside doctors and medical providers in eight primary care practices to address behavioral health AND physical health – together.

The evening also features dinner and a **silent auction** to support services. Tickets are \$30 per person. Sponsorships are available, and donations to the silent auction are welcome. Please call 783-4663 x 104 for information or visit www.tcmhs.org.

Tri-County Mental Health Services is one of Maine's most respected and progressive agencies dealing with the psychological and social well-being of children, adults, and elders. TCMHS serves nearly 10,000 individuals each year in Androscoggin, Cumberland, Franklin and Oxford counties and beyond with innovative programs and services addressing mental health, substance abuse, mental retardation/ developmental disabilities, autism, and more. The agency is a state, regional and national leader in trauma-informed and recovery-based service delivery, and strives to offer hope to individuals, families, and communities. Visit www.tcmhs.org for more information.

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