



SANDRA DALKE IS MIPS' 2018 PATIENT SAFETY CHAMPION FOR HER LEADERSHIP IN KEEPING 15,000 YOUTH WITH PHYSICAL HEALTHCARE NEEDS LIVING SAFELY IN OUR COMMUNITIES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (June 7, 2018): Sandra Dalke, provincial coordinator for the province's Unified Referral and Intake System (URIS), is the recipient of the Manitoba Institute for Patient Safety's 2018 Patient Safety Champion Award.

Dalke is the axis of the very dynamic, complex, interrelated URIS program which includes health professionals, lay persons, educators, administrators and policy makers. Her role is vital to ensuring that all the children within the URIS system are provided optimum care and are safe within an environment in which they live and interact, while they are away from their parents or caregivers.

Dalke was chosen for "providing the outstanding leadership expertise" that makes it possible for about 15,000 Manitoba children and youth with special healthcare needs to not be "patients", but regular children in schools, day cares and formal respite programs each year. Their complex healthcare needs include such conditions as bleeding disorders, cardiac and endocrine conditions, diabetes, seizure disorders, and special respiratory needs, to name a few.

Under Sandra's leadership, a team of more than 30 registered nurses train thousands of community-based administrators, teachers and child care workers so that these young people can enact their right to grow and thrive in the community along with their peers at more than 450 schools and 600 child care facilities.

Above all, the ultimate goal for Sandra Dalke is safe healthcare. People who know and work with Sandra see a health professional who is extremely dedicated, hard-working, and very caring, right to her core.

The 2018 Patient Safety Champion Award was bestowed upon Dalke at the Manitoba Institute for Patient Safety's Annual General meeting in Winnipeg on June 6th, 2018.

Created in 2004, the Manitoba Institute for Patient Safety promotes, coordinates and facilitates activities that have a positive impact on patient safety throughout Manitoba while enhancing the quality of healthcare for Manitobans. The Institute's patient safety initiatives like *It's Safe To Ask* have also been replicated across Canada and internationally.

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High-Res photographs of award and grant recipients can be obtained at <http://mips.ca/news.html>.

PREMIER MEMBERS

Note:

The College of Pharmacists of Manitoba (CPhM) and Langruth Elementary School in Langruth, MIPS' 2017 Dr. John Wade Patient Safety Grant recipients, also reported on their projects at the MIPS AGM.

CPhM received a \$6,200 grant to create a *Just/Safe Toolkit* for community pharmacies to help support a cultural shift from blame-and-shame to just-and-safe. MIPS funding was used to consult with Manitoba's community pharmacies, stakeholders and patient safety experts, prior to creating an online *Toolkit* for pharmacists and the public. In partnership with the Institute for Safe Medication Practices Canada (ISMP Canada), the College created a proof of concept for an innovative web-based application that will allow pharmacy professionals to share learnings and experiences. CPhM also partnered with ISMP Canada to create resources to educate pharmacists and patients about safe medication use in older adults.

The Manitoba Institute for Patient Safety additionally awarded \$750 of funding to Langruth Elementary School in Langruth, Manitoba to cover the costs of having a community-based facilitator teach a babysitting course for local youth aged eleven and up. The funds also covered the costs of purchasing training books for the youth. Furthermore, students were trained to help seniors complete a falls prevention safety checklist.