



Silver Syringe is Nevada's opportunity to celebrate immunization champions across the state. Each year, we recognize individuals and organizations who are working to protect our community by promoting immunizations and improving access to preventive healthcare services. This year, we celebrate SNIHC members for their commitment and contribution to the success of our coalition. Silver Syringe Awards were announced at SNIHC's End-of-Year Celebration held December 5, 2013. Congratulations to all of our winners!

ADVOCATE.

SNIHC's Advocate of the Year is recognized for her work to increase awareness of the state's immunization registry – Nevada WebIZ, her professionalism in providing comprehensive training and assistance for registry users, and her dedication to improving Nevada's immunization rates. This champion has been a strong advocate for childhood vaccination and has demonstrated her passion by serving on SNIHC's Child & Adolescent Committee, collaborating with childcare providers through SNAEYC, and supporting the WIC-Immunization Linkage Project. Her advocacy efforts will be sincerely missed as she is moving to the Philippines with her family but we wish her luck on her adventure abroad! We recognize her impact on our community and thank her for going above and beyond for SNIHC and our members over the years. **The 2013 Silver Syringe for Advocate of the Year is awarded to Gwen Navarrete of Nevada WebIZ!**

EDUCATE.

The Silver Syringe for Education Champion of the year will be awarded to two individuals. These champions helped SNIHC to reach more than 100 of today's most accessible healthcare providers, those working in retail pharmacies. We recognize that more and more our community is turning to their pharmacy for immunizations and education. Our first awardee provided a presentation targeting Pharmacy Technicians incorporating immunization basics, using humor to personalize it, and sharing real-world experiences to ensure the content was relatable. The presentation was well-received and based on our success in 2013, we will offer regular continuing education opportunities for this important group of providers in the future. **For his work educating Pharmacy Technicians, the 2013 Silver Syringe for Education Champion of the Year is awarded to Dr. Dan Heller of Savon Pharmacy.**

Our second Education Champion encouraged SNIHC to partner with Roseman University of Health Sciences to offer a continuing education program for Pharmacists. She volunteered to give the presentation and the reservations rolled in. We were able to educate nearly 100 local Pharmacists and even had to establish a waiting list! This champion is constantly volunteering to administer vaccinations at SNIHC events and she never shows up alone... She recognizes that education often happens away from the lecture hall and always brings a group of students to community events and often to SNIHC meetings, too. She is recognized for her work introducing future Pharmacists to their role within the public health community and for expanding SNIHC reach to include Pharmacists in Southern Nevada. **Our 2013 Silver Syringe for Education Champion of the Year also goes to Dr. Christina Madison of Roseman University and the Southern Nevada Health District.**

COLLABORATE.

Collaboration is essential to the work of our coalition. SNIHC is awarding a Silver Syringe for the 2013 Collaboration of the Year to honor two outstanding organizations that joined forces to create a brand new community event in 2013. After recognizing how overwhelming our large back-to-school events can

be for children with special needs, SNIHC's Child & Adolescent Committee suggested an immunization clinic and fair customized especially for the unique needs of this population. Local families expressed appreciation for the opportunity to get the resources needed for the school year while avoiding long lines, overstimulation and 'meltdowns' experienced during previous back-to-school events. Furthermore, this collaboration introduced new partners that are focused on serving children with special healthcare needs to SNIHC. For their efforts to ensure children with special needs have access to immunizations and a healthy start to the school year, [our Silver Syringe Award for the 2013 Collaboration of the Year goes to Family TIES of Nevada and Nevada Early Intervention Services.](#)

INTEGRATE.

We are SNIHC with an 'H' for health. Adding that 'H' to our name has added diversity within our membership, expanded our focus beyond immunization to overall health, and allowed SNIHC to integrate additional health-related services into community events. Two of our core health partners are recognized for their non-immunization contributions to SNIHC. The first award recognizes the Program Resource Coordinator at Future Smiles for her consistent presence at SNIHC meetings, her coordination of dental screenings with fluoride varnish at community events, and her promotion of the connection between oral health and overall health. [The 2013 Silver Syringe for Health Integration Partnership of the Year goes to Joanne Cummings of Future Smiles.](#)

SNIHC's model of integration has expanded partnerships not only for dental care, but also for vision care. We celebrate a SNIHC member that demonstrates her commitment through meeting and event participation, facilitation of vision screenings at community events with follow-up care provided by Dr. Ohriner, and expansion of SNIHC resources to ensure continuum of care, especially for the uninsured. Additionally, this partner exhibits impressive patience while working with children and sincere concern for the needs of the families screened. [Our second Silver Syringe for Health Integration Partnership of the Year is awarded to Janie Root of The Eyecare Center.](#)

NIIW.

The 2013 National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW) kicked off with a day of events at the new location of the Southern Nevada Health District. These events would not have been possible without the collaboration from our NIIW Champion of the Year. SNIHC offered a breakfast and continuing education presentation with 20 VFC providers and 50 childcare providers in attendance, followed by a Silver Syringe Awards ceremony recognizing immunization rates among licensed childcare providers, and a successful NIIW community event that immunized nearly 400 children. This champion started her day with media interviews, then helped us set up and greet the providers, delivered an engaging (and often humorous) presentation targeting daycare centers, emceed the awards ceremony, and managed the long lines for immunizations well into the afternoon. For facilitating all of this with incredible energy, organization, and passion for improving immunization rates among infants, [SNIHC presents the 2013 Silver Syringe for NIIW Champion of the Year to Joann Rupiper of the Southern Nevada Health District.](#)

WIC LINKAGE.

Since 2008, SNIHC has partnered with the Nevada W.I.C. (Women, Infants and Children) program in Clark County to expand immunization access and education for this vulnerable population through the WIC-Immunization Linkage Project. In 2013, this project organized 10 special dates to bring vaccines to various WIC agencies throughout the valley. Our WIC Linkage Champion allocated some of their limited grant funding in support of these clinics, provided staffing to administer vaccines at each event, and have committed to continuing and helping SNIHC expand these WIC events in 2014. [The Silver Syringe](#)

for WIC-Immunization Champion of the Year goes to Sue Brooks, Founder of Helping Kids Clinic.

B2S.

July and August were extremely busy for SNIHC with the promotion of 30 Back-to-School events hosted by our partners. Our 2013 Back-to-School Champion hosted a successful event at Cashman Center, in partnership with Nevada Youth Alliance, to kickoff the season in mid-July. He followed that up by scheduling 10 additional events at Walmart stores across the valley during the last week of summer and the first week of school. Offering immunizations at these convenient locations removed barriers for working families and afforded children the opportunity to start school on time. For supporting the record-breaking 313,000 students enrolled in the Clark County School District this year, **the Silver Syringe for Back-to-School Champion of the Year goes to David Osman of Amerigroup and Nevada Youth Alliance.**

INFLUENCE.

SNIHC's Flu and Adult Committee developed a plan to redesign the 2013 InFLUence Others campaign used to raise awareness during influenza season. The committee was inspired by last year's 'Give Us Your Best Shot' campaign created by Immunize Nevada and wanted to merge that campaign with our traditional InFLUence Nevada campaign by incorporating images of local 'celebrities'. This meant that all of the materials designed in Northern Nevada would need to be adapted for use in Southern Nevada. She could have simply said 'no' to this request, but our 2013 InFLUence Nevada Champion accepted the challenge. She facilitated statewide communication between our two coalitions, the graphic designers, the public relations companies and the media buyers. She stayed positive, didn't complain about the numerous revisions, and allowed SNIHC to create an appealing campaign with a Southern Nevada spin! **The Silver Syringe for InFLUence Nevada Champion of the Year goes to Katie Nannini of Immunize Nevada.**