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Feb. 24, 2017

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Generation Rx Champions Award Given to Sell of Monroe County

Jennifer J. Sell of Monroe will be honored with the Michigan Pharmacists Association (MPA) Generation Rx Champions Award during the Association's Annual Convention & Exposition, held Feb. 24-26 at the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center.

The Generation Rx Champions Award, sponsored by Cardinal Health Foundation, recognizes a pharmacist who has demonstrated excellence in community-based prescription drug abuse prevention. The award is intended to recognize outstanding efforts within the pharmacy community to raise awareness of this serious public health problem. It is also intended to encourage educational prevention efforts aimed at patients, youth, and other members of the community. The award recipient receives a \$500 donation to the charity of his/her choice.

Sell has devoted much of her career to helping the community in which she lives and works become more informed about the drug abuse and prevention. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy from the University of Toledo in 2001 where was a notable student winning the History of Pharmacy Award and participating in compounding workshops. Currently, Sell is the director of pharmacy services and ProMedica Monroe Regional Hospital where she is responsible for inpatient pharmacy operations including the oversight of sterile compounding, Knowledge-Based Medication Administration™ (KBMA) barcoding and Pyxis optimization. Before becoming the director of pharmacy services, Sell was the retail pharmacy manager at ProMedica Macomb Pharmacy, leading the retail pharmacy team throughout their day-to-day operations.

But outside of Sell's pharmacy career, she has defined herself as a patient advocate and a community educator working to inform the public of prescription drug abuse and prevention. Sell has been previously awarded the 2012 and 2014 Champion for Change Award from the Monroe County Substance Abuse Coalition, as well as serving as both the treasurer and volunteer for the Coalition. From 2012-2016, Sell chaired the Medical Work Group – Call to Action to Reduce Heroin and Prescription Drug Abuse, and she is a current United Way Board Member of Monroe/Lenawee counties as well as serving as the Fund Distribution Chairman for the group.

Sell takes every opportunity to reach out into the community and provide education related to the role of the pharmacist in abuse deterrence and prevention. She participates in community forums and events aimed at and providing resources and education to those in the community touched by drug abuse. In 2014 she participated in the Monroe County Prescription Drug Abuse and Heroine Summit as part of the Monroe County Substance Abuse Coalition's efforts to positively impact community members. Recently, she participated in Monroe County's fourth annual Drug Summit, aimed at raising awareness of the opioid epidemic to high school aged students and educating them on the use of Naloxone, the medication that revives a person in an opioid overdose. Overall, Sell's career has been aimed at serving those around her all in an effort to educate and inform communities and patients to ensure medications are used to improve and prolong lives.

Michigan Pharmacists Association, representing the nearly 9,000 pharmacists and 15,000 pharmacy technicians in Michigan, strives to serve members by providing support, advocacy and resources that ultimately improve patient care, safety, health and the practice of pharmacy. For more information, visit www.MichiganPharmacists.org.

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