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JULY 10, 2015

ELSIE HALL OF ERROL, NH, RECEIVES ISHC COMMUNITY HEALTH ADVOCATE AWARD



The Board of Directors of Indian Stream Health Center (ISHC) is proud to announce ISHC's Fourth Annual Community Health Advocate Award. This award is being presented to Elsie Hall of Errol, on August 12th at ISHC's Annual Community Meeting which is being held at the Spa Restaurant & Outback Pub in West Stewartstown, NH. The meeting is open to the public and a reception starting at 5:00pm will be followed by a 6:00pm dinner. A suggested donation of \$18 from those who are able to make a donation is appreciated to help offset the cost of the evening.

The Community Health Advocate Award was developed by ISHC Board of Directors to honor an individual within ISHC's service area who exemplifies service and has committed his/her time and talents to identifying and addressing community health needs. Previous recipients have been Lynda Gaudette, Becky Bean and Haven Haynes Jr. There were numerous nominations this year for the award and after considerable discussion by the ISHC Community Relations Committee, it was decided to honor Elsie Hall. We want to thank her for her dedication and commitment to the Errol community and assuring that emergency medical service was available to that community.

Elsie was nominated for this award by the Errol Rescue Squad, Inc. Elsie is the second generation of EMS providers (that has grown to four generations) who have served the community. Elsie and her daughter Terri became EMTs in 1983. Along with Mike Kennard they formed what is known today as Errol Rescue Squad, Inc. With their cars equipped with first aid supplies and medical equipment they would provide emergency medical care to the community. In the 1990's the Pittsburg Ambulance Service sold their 1979 van style ambulance to Errol Rescue for \$1.00, fulfilling Elsie's dream to become a transport service. Elsie, Terri and Mike manned the ambulance and never charged for their services. In fact, most things were bought out of their own pockets.

Elsie's devotion to her community and to providing emergency rescue services was and is seemingly without bounds. She is a great at coming up with ideas for fundraisers. She is an advocate at town meetings and gives of herself endlessly to assure her little community is cared for. Even as she was caring for her father when he was ill with cancer so he could remain at home, she and her daughter Terri took turns taking ambulance calls so the community was not neglected in any way. Best said by the Errol Rescue Squad; "Elsie has given more of herself to this community than anyone we know. Elsie was one of the driving forces for Errol Rescue buying a 1997 Wheel Coach Ambulance from the town of Errol. The future being so uncertain, Elsie just looked ahead and said, 'Let's do this.' In 1998 Errol Rescue became a nonprofit private ambulance service with Elsie pushing us all the way."

Elsie has served as an EMT-B for many years, receiving recognition in 2004 from the NREMT (National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians) for 25 years of service. She is still active today. Her care, commitment and compassion for her community are boundless.

ISHC encourages community residents to attend its August 12th Annual Community Meeting. The event starts at 5:00 pm with light musical entertainment by Islay Mist Ceilidh. Two guest speakers; Deborah Amdur, Medical Center Director at the White River Junction VA Medical Center will be focusing on the importance of accessibility and high quality primary health care to Veterans and Dr. Sean Boynes, Director of Interprofessional Practice of DentaQuest Institute will speak about the importance of integrating oral health into the scope of comprehensive primary care services.

ISHC encourages community residents to attend its August 12th Annual Community Meeting. To attend, R.S.V.P.'s are required. Please contact Gaetane Boire, by August 3rd, at 603-388-2432. Visit us online at **Indianstream.org** for more details on the event.

Indian Stream Health Center is a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) serving the needs of Coos County, New Hampshire and surrounding areas in Maine, and Vermont; maximizing the quality of life of area residents.