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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dr. Brian Turley, DDS, and Rock River Community Dental Clinic Team Receives Wisconsin Dental Association Community Outreach Award

Whitewater, WI, November 22, 2022 - Dr. Brian Turley, DDS, of Rock River Community Clinic was chosen as the recipient of the 2022 Wisconsin Dental Association (WDA) Pyramid of Pride Community Outreach award for his exemplary work within the local community dental clinic.

“Brian’s service to the community is embedded within his practice and care, making him an exceptional model for the greater dental community,” states Olivia Nichols, M.S., CEO/Executive Director of Rock River Community Clinic. “For over 15 years, Dr. Turley has been a constant at our dental clinic and a source of mentorship and laughter - for both our staff and patients. He models what it means to walk the talk of service to one’s community.”

The annual WDA Pyramid of Pride awards are given annually to member dentists, organizations, and others who have demonstrated exemplary commitment, service, and achievement in regard to dentistry and the oral health of Wisconsin residents. The recipients are chosen by the WDA Board of Trustees based on the nominations submitted.

Dr. Turley was nominated by another local dentist, Dr. Mike Bender, DDS. Bender submitted a nomination form and letter indicating why Turley was deserving of the honor. Bender’s nomination noted Turley’s commitment to providing equitable dental care to his communities, having served as a key stakeholder in the creation and implementation of the original community dental clinic in 2005. Bender also highlighted the endless hours of donated time and service Turley has contributed to the clinic, as well as his efforts to recruit other providers to support and join the cause.

“Brian has done so much for the people of Jefferson and Rock County ever since he started his practice in Jefferson in the 1990’s,” states Bender, DDS. “To be a father, spouse, grandfather, full time dentist AND to develop a community dental clinic on the side is something one can only do with great passion and desire to serve others.”

Dr. Turley was insistent that the award was a team effort, extending credit to the entire dental team - past and present - at Rock River Community Clinic for their community outreach efforts.

“I am honored to receive this community award from WDA and am humbled by the nomination support from Dr. Bender,” Dr. Turley states. “But the effort, progress, and impact at our dental clinic is accomplished through a team effort. Many people have taken part in building this clinic and each employee/volunteer/organization continues to fulfill their role, and beyond, with a passion and dedication towards helping others in our area. Our team effort is what makes this work possible.”

Dr. Turley is the owner and lead dentist at Smiles by Turley in Jefferson and continues to serve at Rock River Community Clinic every Tuesday from 8am to 4pm.

“There are an increasing number of families without access to dental care because of insurance rates outside their control. Brian’s commitment to serving these families and providing high quality dental care has persisted through many changes and challenges. His skill, time, and leadership can’t be understated and has been absolutely instrumental to me and to RRCC” Nichols adds.

On behalf of Dr. Turley, Nichols received the honor at the WDA House of Delegates awards dinner on Friday, November 11th, and presented it to Dr. Turley on Tuesday, November 15th with the full dental team.

For more information about Rock River Community Clinic, please contact 262.472.6839 or visit www.rockrivercommunityclinic.org.

Rock River Community Clinic (RRCC) provides comprehensive and cost-effective health care services to ensure all community members have access to the care they need. Serving families in Jefferson, Dodge, and parts of Walworth County, RRCC includes three medical clinics located in Whitewater, Watertown, and Jefferson, and one dental clinic located in Fort Atkinson. Referrals for behavioral health care services will be available in Whitewater and Watertown locations soon.

At RRCC, all community members are welcome and accepted, regardless of ability to pay, with discounted prices for patients who are uninsured or underinsured (high deductible plans). RRCC also provides care coordination services to help patients overcome barriers to accessing healthcare (e.g., transportation), and helps to coordinate referrals. Bilingual staff (Spanish & English) are available to support patients and their families. By increasing access to health care services, offering care at affordable costs, and assisting with healthcare navigation, RRCC works to create a healthier, more equitable, community. For clinic hours and directions, visit www.rockrivercommunityclinic.org

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