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NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release:

Detroit-Wayne County Community Mental Health Agency's Medical Director receives national honor as "exemplary psychiatrist"

Washington, DC – The Detroit-Wayne County Community Mental Health Agency announced Tuesday that the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) is recognizing the Agency's medical director as one of the nation's "Exemplary Psychiatrist."

Michele Reid, MD, who has been with Wayne County since 1988, was officially recognized along with 29 other psychiatrists during the annual conference of the American Psychiatric Association (APA) in the nation's capital.

The awards carry special distinction because honorees are nominated by the very people who need and receive their help the most: individuals and families who are affected by mental illness.

"Dr. Reid has been supportive of NAMI and always available to NAMI for events and speeches going back some 20 years," said Tom Cole, MD, who submitted the nomination as president of NAMI's Eastside Detroit Chapter.

Veda A. Sharp, the Agency's acting Executive Director, said: "We are very proud of Dr. Reid and her tireless work and advocacy on behalf of our system and mental health services everywhere. We congratulate her on this well-deserved honor."

Sharp noted that Reid was one of two psychiatrists from Detroit, and extended congratulations to the other honoree: Manuel E. Tancer, MD. Dr. Tancer, Chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences at the Wayne State University School of Medicine, was also honored. The Agency has collaborated with WSU on various mental health programs.

“As this recognition for Drs. Reid and Tancer, show, Detroit-Wayne County Community Mental Health system is fortunate to have tremendous professionals and champions,” said Sharp.

The annual "Exemplary Psychiatry Awards" recognize psychiatrists who have "gone the extra mile" in providing excellent clinical care, educating family members and consumers, educating the public and helping to reduce stigma surrounding mental illness. They also have worked alongside NAMI members in their communities as advocates for research, social services, insurance parity, and other needs.

As Medical Director for Detroit-Wayne County CMH Agency, Dr. Reid oversees the medical direction of the system, which serves more than 57,000 residents with mental illness, emotional disturbance, developmental disability and substance use disorders. She has received numerous local, state and national awards. Most recently, she led a Workgroup that helped Wayne County achieve national attention for its community collaboration in response to the public health threat posed during the emergence of fentanyl in the street drug supply.

The Detroit-Wayne County CMH Agency is a division of the Wayne County Department of Health and Human Services.

Editor's Note: A photo/jpeg of Dr. Reid is available by calling 833-2983 or 213-0838.