

The Northwest SBDC Recognizes Top 2015 Local Business Women with the Mountain Town Business Women Awards

Five women were awarded from over 100 nominees submitted for Northwest Business Leaders. This list of prominent community leaders is a showcase of the amazing talent we have in our communities.

Colo., March 3rd, 2015 — The Northwest Small Business Development (Northwest SBDC) launched the Inaugural Mountain Town Business Awards to recognize prominent and upcoming women business leaders in Colorado's mountain town communities. Five Award winners were honored in the following categories; Legacy Leader, Creative Innovation, Emerging Leader, Legacy Health & Wellness Leader and Emerging Health & Wellness Champion. Awardees were celebrated this week at private brunch at the Vail Chophouse.

Northwest SBDC Director, Lindsey Stapay remarked that nominations for the five awards stretched over 8 counties in northwest Colorado and shows that our resort and rural businesses owners are building a strong economy over snowy passes and long valley's to create a healthy and thriving economy.

Each winner took a moment to speak of their dedication to becoming a business leader in our mountain communities.

Highlights included, Shannon Foley of St. Anthony's Summit Medical, Centura Health co-sponsor presented 2 awards in the category of Emerging & Legacy Leadership.

"We find ourselves in a transformative era in healthcare; one that fosters an alternatively proactive approach to community health. In this new era of population medicine, the ultimate goal is to make a quantifiable difference in the health of our communities."

As the region's largest healthcare provider, Centura Health is committed to meeting the unique needs of the communities we serve and improving overall health by offering a full spectrum of care. Therefore, we commend those who follow a similar mission and appreciate your commitment as health and wellness leaders - your efforts have not gone un-noticed stated Foley."

After receiving an outstanding number of nominations within the health and wellness sector, the committee decided to categorize nominees by emerging and established, legacy leaders.

Dr. Christine Elbert-Santos accepted the Legacy Health & Wellness award and mentioned that her multi-generational family and her awesome staff has helped built her success across 6 counties in northwest Colorado.

Betsy Markey, the new SBA Regional Administrator was on hand to congratulate winners and noted that "small business owners have made our nation's economy strong". While Fiona Arnold, Executive

Director to the Office of Economic Development and International trade came to wrap up the program with thoughtful insights about the importance of celebrating business leadership.

2015 MOUNTAIN TOWN BUSINESS AWARD LEADERS

Legacy Business Women's Award Winner: Robin Waters, Basalt Chamber

Distinguished Legacy Honorees

- Jamie Brown
- Lisa Adamo

Emerging Business Women's Award Winner: Andrea Stewart, Carbondale Chamber

Distinguished Emerging Leader Honorees

- Kristy Lee Gogolen
- Abbie Leigh Arbie
- Amy Kemp

Creative Business Women's Award Winner: Candy Elkind

Distinguished Creative Leader Honorees

- Lindsey Joyce
- Megan Ledin

Legacy Health & Wellness Leadership: Dr. Christine Ebert-Santos, Ebert Family Clinic

Distinguished Health & Wellness Honoree

- Kathleen Killion

Emerging Health & Wellness Champion: Amanda Wagner, Aspen Clinic

Distinguished Health & Wellness Honoree

- Denise Latousek

See more details about the awards at <http://www.northwestsbdc.org/programs/businesswomenawards>

The Northwest SBDC joined forces with business leaders across Northwest Colorado and MTN Town Magazine to create and launch the 1st Annual Mountain Town Business Women's Awards. Presenters include Betsy Markey, Regional Administrator of SBA's Region VIII; Christy Costello, Program Manager for Creative Industries Summit; and Fiona Arnold, Executive Director of Office if economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT)

Co-sponsor of the Awards, Holly Battista-Resignolo, owner of MTN Town Magazine & Media House states "I am stoked to see the response of nominees for the 1st year award. I have encouraged everyone to nominate our local women business owners whom deserve the recognition. These are the kind of stories we want to share with our community."

More Details...

In 2016, the "Mountain Town Business Nomination Committee" will include the newly awarded 2015 Awardees (5 people) and (2) nominating committee member from the previous year to assist with continuing the tradition of celebrating courageous business leaders across the mountain regions. These (7) individuals will cast awards as long as there is great leadership for this celebration of hard working, honest, leaders among our mountain town communities of Colorado.

Please see details about this award at:

<http://www.northwestsbdc.org/programs/businesswomenawards>

Feel free to call us directly at 970-968-5802 with any questions.

###