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HealthWatch Wisconsin Announces Award Winners

Miller and Seidel honored for legislative leadership on access to health care coverage and service issues for the people of Wisconsin

Madison, WI—HealthWatch Wisconsin¹ has honored Senator Mark Miller (D-Monona) and Representative Donna Seidel (D-Wausau) as the inaugural recipients of the HealthWatch Wisconsin Legislator of the Year award. “We are pleased with the legislative commitment of both Rep. Seidel and Sen. Miller, to strive for access to health care and coverage for all in Wisconsin, even in tough economic climates. Health care has remained a consistent priority, and our members recognized their leadership when selecting this year’s award recipients,” stated Public Interest Attorney Bobby Peterson, founder of ABC for Health Inc and project director for HealthWatch Wisconsin. The awards ceremony coincided with the 3rd Annual HealthWatch Wisconsin conference—an event that convenes health care advocates, patient navigators and others from the public health workforce. As the health reform debate continues in Washington, Wisconsin’s families continue to need help to cut through the bureaucracy and red tape to access needed health care coverage and services. “Despite the challenges we have people who are difference makers and we must take time to honor and celebrate those who work hard to make life better for many people in Wisconsin,” said Peterson.



Representative Donna Seidel and Senator Mark Miller are pictured with ABC for Health’s Executive Director Bobby Peterson at the February 8, 2010 HealthWatch Wisconsin Awards Ceremony

The Class of 2010 Honorees includes:

Outreach Effort of the Year: Kris Peterka, Riverwest Initiative

Advocate of the Year: Julie Baryluk, Polk County Health Department

Outstanding Media: Shamane Mills, Wisconsin Public Radio

Legislators of the Year: Senator Mark Miller, Representative Donna Seidel

¹ HealthWatch Wisconsin is a membership organization that strives to transform the public health system by assuring a more sufficient, competent, and coordinated public health workforce. HealthWatch Wisconsin is dedicated to improving access to health care coverage and services for Wisconsin families. ABC for Health is a Wisconsin-based, nonprofit, public interest law firm dedicated to linking children and families, particularly those with special health care needs, to health care benefits and services. ABC for Health’s mission is to provide information, advocacy tools, legal services and expert support needed to obtain, maintain, and finance health care coverage and services.

