



the compassion to care, the leadership to conquer

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### **Alzheimer's Association announces 2009 Excellence in Caregiving award recipients**

**(Cedar Rapids, IA, August 12)**—The Alzheimer's Association East Central Iowa Chapter hosted the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia Education Conference on Thursday, August 13<sup>th</sup>, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Cedar Rapids Marriott located at 1200 Collins Road NE in Cedar Rapids.

The Excellence in Caregiving Awards presentation took place during the conference luncheon, which began at 11:30am. The ceremony was presented by Debbie Jones, Board President of the Alzheimer's Association East Central Iowa Chapter and National Alzheimer's Association Board Member. 2009 award recipients included Congressman Bruce Braley, family caregivers, and professionals in the field from around Eastern Iowa.

**Congressman Bruce Braley** received the **Special Service Award** for spearheading an amendment to develop quality indicators for people with dementia that passed in the House Energy and Commerce Committee's health care reform bill. A representative from Congressman Braley's office received this award on his behalf.

**Susan Schultz, MD**, from the University of Iowa's College of Medicine received the **Organization Award**. Dr. Schultz is the principle investigator for the Gammaglobulin Alzheimer's Partnership (GAP) study at the U of I, which is designed to evaluate the effectiveness of Gammaglobulin, an investigational drug, and whether it slows the progression of Alzheimer's disease.

**Patti Reyhons**, a recreation therapist, received the **Professional Award** for her dedication to serving residents, both individually and collectively, by fulfilling their lives through special activities and maintaining long-term memories. Patti takes pride in what her residents accomplish and strives to maintain dignity in all that she does.

**Sonya and Kenny Shippy** both received the **Family Caregiver Award** for their devotion to caring for Sonya's mother, Bernadine, who is currently battling Alzheimer's disease. The Shippy's dedication to Bernadine and the Lakeview Lodge family is truly inspiring, as they face Alzheimer's with compassion and courage.

#### **About the Alzheimer's Association:**

The Alzheimer's Association is the leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer's research, care and support. Our mission is to eliminate Alzheimer's disease through the advancement of research; to provide and enhance care and support for all affected; and to reduce the risk of dementia through the promotion of brain health. Our vision is a world without Alzheimer's. For more information visit [www.alz.org/eci](http://www.alz.org/eci).