



2020 CHAMPS Awardees

Virtual Awards Ceremony | Friday, November 20, 2020

Outstanding Advocate of the Underserved Award

Juanita Sapp, MD, Chief Medical Officer, Heritage Health Center, WY

Dr. Juanita Sapp advocates for the underserved, but more importantly advocates for health care for all people, especially those in vulnerable populations. After a long and illustrious career in medicine she could have chosen to end her career in any way she wanted. She chose to move back to the town she grew up in and open a new, from paper, Federally Qualified Health Center because there were no safety net providers available to at-risk populations in the Big Horn Basin.

She has worked tirelessly for five years to build a practice where anyone can receive care of the highest standard, regardless of their social or financial stature in life. She is a patient advocate who looks at the entire patient and is the first person to remind staff to take a walk in their shoes. As a unit, she and her patients figure out ways to reach a healthier lifestyle.

Dr. Sapp's rapport with patients and the community has created loyalty and value for Heritage Health Center. Patients drive upwards of two hours to be seen because they know they will receive quality and affordable care. She is a selfless doctor who has researched and embraced new medicine but has maintained the nostalgia of the doctor-patient relationship of times past.

Throughout her career, she has taken on patients at their worst and made it her mission to improve their well-being, though you would never know just how much, as she very rarely portrays her good deeds to the public or senior management. Dr. Sapp is selfless and cares about every single one of her patients. When making managerial decisions, she is always the advocate for the underserved and is a constant reminder of a mission first mentality. Her prowess for understanding and advocating for the underserved is unmatched.

For her dedication to advocating for and providing services to vulnerable and underserved populations, we are pleased to present Dr. Juanita Sapp with the CHAMPS Outstanding Advocate of the Underserved Award.

