



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Boxford, Massachusetts Pharmacist Brian A. Ambrefe, Honored for Outstanding Community Service

Washington, DC – The Massachusetts Pharmacists Association (MPhA) has selected Brian A. Ambrefe as the recipient of the 2011 Bowl of Hygeia Award for outstanding community service. Ambrefe was presented with the award during the Annual New England Pharmacists Convention, September 15-16, 2011. The award is sponsored by the American Pharmacists Association Foundation and the National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations.

Ambrefe is an annual speaker on medications for the North Shore Medical Center diabetes support group and a resource for patients on medical management of diabetes. He is a member of the Leadership Committee for The Fund for St. Johns and is very active with the St. John's Prep Campus Ministry. He volunteers as a liaison to The Inn Between and collects donations of towels and linens for clients in transition. Ambrefe is a member of the community advisory committee for Aviv Centers for Living. He has volunteered with Haven from Hunger and Habitat for Humanity. Ambrefe has been a preceptor for ambulatory and clinical pharmacy externs from Northeastern University and Massachusetts College of Pharmacy for over 18 years and serves as an expert consultant for the Gerson Lehman Group on topics of independent and community pharmacy trends.

Established in 1958, the Bowl of Hygeia Award recognizes pharmacists who possess outstanding records of civic leadership in their communities and encourages pharmacists to take active roles in the affairs of their respective communities. The award is presented annually by participating state pharmacist associations, including those in the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. In addition to service through their local, state and national pharmacy associations, award recipients have devoted their time, talent and resources to a wide variety of causes and community service.

The Bowl of Hygeia is the most widely recognized international symbol for the pharmacy profession and is considered one of the profession's most prestigious awards. The Bowl of Hygeia has been associated with the pharmacy profession since as early as 1796 when the symbol was used on a coin minted for the Parisian Society of Pharmacy. The bowl represents a medicinal potion and the snake represents healing. Healing through medicine is precisely why the pharmacy profession has adopted the Bowl of Hygeia symbol.

Information regarding contributing to the Bowl of Hygeia future is available by contacting the APhA Foundation at 202-429-7565 or info@aphafoundation.org.

About the American Pharmacists Association Foundation

The APhA Foundation is affiliated with the American Pharmacists Association, the national professional society of pharmacists in the U.S. The APhA Foundation, a nonprofit organization based in Washington, D.C., works to design solutions to medication use problems in America. The APhA Foundation's mission is to improve the quality of consumer health outcomes affected by pharmacy. For more information, please visit the APhA Foundation website <http://www.aphafoundation.org/>.

About the National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations

The National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations (NASPA) promotes leadership, sharing, learning, and policy exchange among pharmacy leaders in all 50 states and Washington, DC, and provides education and advocacy to support pharmacists, patients, and communities working together to improve public health. NASPA was founded in 1927 as the National Council of State Pharmacy Association Executives (NCSPA). For more information, please visit the NASPA Web site www.naspa.us.

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