

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**SCPHD extends “Health Hero” nominations and introduces  
New “Community Hero” spotlight during COVID-19 pandemic**

**SOUTH CENTRAL IDAHO** – Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, South Central Public Health District (SCPHD) is extending nominations for their annual Health Heroes award and introducing a new Facebook spotlight for our everyday heroes working to raise spirits during this pandemic.

“These two spotlights are a chance for us to honor the people and organizations who work tirelessly to make our communities healthier,” said Pam Jones, SCPHD Health Board member and Chair of the Health Heroes Committee. “This terrible pandemic has brought some incredible health heroes into the light and we want to give people a chance to recognize them.”

SCPHD will spotlight a new “Community Hero” twice a week on their Facebook page until the end of May. **To nominate a Community Hero email a short description of that person’s work, their name and county of residence, and a picture of that person or the service they have participated in to [scphd@phd5.idaho.gov](mailto:scphd@phd5.idaho.gov).**

Additionally, the nomination deadline for traditional Health Heroes has been extended. The new close date and award ceremony will be announced after guidelines restricting mass gatherings are lifted. Health Heroes includes four nomination categories: youth, adult volunteer, adult professional and organization and accepts nominations for residents in Blaine, Camas, Cassia, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln, Minidoka, and Twin Falls counties. The following are eligible for nomination in each category:

**Youth:** A volunteer, 18 years old or younger, who has made a big impact on the health of their community. Please limit entries to one person per nomination.

**Adult Volunteer:** A member of the community, over the age of 18, who is volunteering outside of their profession. This person must have volunteered time on a community project, initiative, or organization and their efforts have helped their community become healthier. Please limit entries to one person per nomination.

**Adult Professional:** A member of the community, over the age of 18, who works in health care or community health and goes above and beyond in their job or hobby to help make their community healthier. Please limit entries to one person per nomination.

**Organization:** A group of people (youth or adult) who have made a big impact on their community health over the last year. Please limit entries in this category to groups of two or more residents.

**You can see previous Health Hero winners and find nomination forms on our website at <http://phd5.idaho.gov/health-heroes>.**

In the nomination form please include a description explaining why the nominee deserves the **Health Heroes Award** and how they have impacted their community. Examples of qualifying activities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Promoting a healthy lifestyle through activities at schools, churches, and places of work
- Programs/activities to reduce suicides
- Promoting physical activity or other activities that help reduce obesity
- Help preparing a community for a disaster
- Efforts to decrease workplace injuries
- Promoting policies that led to healthy outcomes

**Employees of South Central Public Health District are not eligible to receive a Health Hero award or a Community Health Spotlight. If you would like to recognize an SCPHD employee please feel free to call one of our offices, or leave us a message on Facebook.**