



NEWS



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McLean County Board of Health presents 2016 Public Health Award

BLOOMINGTON – Dr. Anita Tillman, a pediatrician with Advocate Medical Group, was awarded the 2016 McLean County Public Health Award by the McLean County Board of Health today for her selflessness and dedication to a sometimes forgotten segment of the community: children placed in the care of the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS).

For over a decade, Dr. Tillman has made it her personal mission to assure that children placed in DCFS care and sent to see her through the Healthworks Lead Agency of McLean County program facilitated by the McLean County Health Department, are seen for their Comprehensive Health Exam within 21 days of placement. For more than nine of those years, she and her staff have come in on their day off twice a month so that the DCFS-required examinations are completed in a timely manner. Going one step further, just last year Dr. Tillman began working the children sent from Healthworks into her regular patient schedule.

Guided by commitment to do what is best for all children, Dr. Tillman will advocate for the DCFS children to receive additional medical specialty services if she believes they are needed after doing their comprehensive health examinations. In many cases, Dr. Tillman's involvement with the children she sees for HealthWorks ends once the comprehensive health exam is complete, as the children's substitute care givers can choose their own pediatrician for the children in their care; but while she is their doctor she gives them a voice.

Dr. Tillman's many years of commitment, compassion, and caring for the children in DCFS care, exemplifies her dedication to public health.

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Each year, the McLean County Board of Health Public Health Award honors a McLean County resident, volunteer, or employee who exhibits leadership in a public health-related activity and contributes to health promotion efforts within the county. The contribution can be professional or occupational, in a volunteer or paid capacity; in areas such as the aging population, communicable disease, emergency preparedness, environmental health, health education and promotion, individuals with disabilities, injury prevention, maternal/child health, mental health, nutrition and fitness or any other health-related field.

For more information about the McLean County Health Department or the McLean County Board of Health, please visit <http://health.mcleancountyil.gov>. For social media users, "Like" McLeanHealth on Facebook, or follow us on Twitter, for updates about public health affecting you.

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