



Press Release

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Mental Health America of Lake County, Staff, and Partners Honored with LAUW Star Awards

Hammond, IN – Mental Health America of Lake County (MHALC) and partner agencies Franciscan Health, Nurse-Family Partnership and Community Healthcare System were honored at the Star Awards sponsored by the Lake Area United Way.

The alliance of agencies was the winner among 5 nominees for a Collaborative Effort award, given to the organization that demonstrates an outstanding collaborative initiative, effort or event. The agencies received the award for The Big Latch On. The Big Latch On is a global event, within local communities, where women gather together to breastfeed and offer peer support to each other. Their friends, family and community join this celebration to promote and support breastfeeding.

The first-time Lake County event was an opportunity for health-related entities to join together in an effort to decrease the county's high infant mortality rate, increase protective factors of breastfeeding for women and babies, and build a healthier Lake County community.

Also honored at the event was MHALC's Family Support Specialist Alyssa Zilz who won a Heart of Service award for her work in supporting vulnerable families through the evidence-based Healthy Families home visiting program.

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