



# Prairie View

## For Immediate Release

**Prairie View, Inc. – 1901 E. First St. – Newton, KS 67114**

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### **Prairie View Named Recipient of International Spirit at Work Award**

Newton, Kan. – Prairie View has been named a recipient of the International Spirit at Work Award, an honor given to organizations that strive to play a major role in transforming social consciousness through a commitment to nurturing the human spirit in the workplace.

To be selected for the award, an organization must meet several criteria, including having sustained an explicitly spiritual project, policy or practice for at least one year and having a long-term commitment to continuing Spirit at Work initiatives.

Since 2002, 42 organizations representing 24 countries have been honored.

According to Judi Neal, Ph.D., president and CEO of the International Center for Spirit at Work, Prairie View was honored for incorporating spirituality into several programs and initiatives:

- **Food for Thought program.** Begun in 1969 on Prairie View's Newton campus, Food for Thought now serves five additional communities – Wichita, Hillsboro, McPherson, Salina and Hutchinson – and nearly 4,000 people annually with a meal and one-hour presentation on topics such as stress, humor, overcoming adversity, improving communication and general motivational topics.
- **Food for Shepherds program.** This program helps clergy and church workers build skills to enhance their effectiveness in serving their congregations. It is also offered in a luncheon format with a live presentation to encourage instant feedback and discussion among participants.
- **Capabilities Awareness Profile (CAP).** The CAP assesses self-awareness, self-acceptance, self-actualization, self-regulation, adaptability, motivation, optimism,

- assertiveness, social identification, empathy, positive emotions and role compliance. The answers are tabulated and presented in a one-page CAP Profile that graphs areas of growth challenges, growth potential and growth assets.
- **Inviting Creativity and Spirituality into the Workplace Pilot Project.** This project included the use of expressive arts for staff development on Prairie View's Newton campus. The ICSW Selection Committee noted that "we find the way you have included the expressive arts into your programs as leading edge."
  - **Work of the Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) team.** DBT is a comprehensive cognitive-behavioral treatment for difficult-to-treat mental disorders. Prairie View's DBT team has deepened spiritual practice and widened its application in team members through a lunch seminar series, half-day continuing education seminar, consultations to inpatient and day hospital teams and more.
  - **Openness for dealing with the spiritual connection to life and death issues with clients and employees.**
  - **Use of prayer and devotions at Prairie View Board of Directors meetings.**
  - **Values Clarification Series used by Jessie Kaye, president and CEO, and utilized with the Leadership Team, which consists of employees with supervisory responsibilities.**

Tamara Herl, ATR-BC, will accept the award when she represents Prairie View at the International Spirit at Work Conference Oct. 19-21 in Norcross, Ga. Herl is an art therapist who has been awarded Registration (ATR) with the Art Therapy Credentials Board based upon 1,000 hours of extensive supervised, documented client contact after attaining a graduate degree in art therapy and Board Certification (BC) by passing a national examination and thereafter maintaining certification by earning continuing education credits. She serves as director of expressive therapies.

She will also present at the conference about the positive impact of the 14-week pilot project, which invited Prairie View Newton campus employees to incorporate spirituality into the workplace.

"I'll be focusing on helping people realize that they can bring their spirituality into the workplace, and when they do, everyone benefits," said Herl. "They feel better about their work, the organization definitely benefits, and the people that we serve benefit as well because they're working with people who are inspired and happy about their work."

There are many benefits to receiving the International Spirit at Work Award, according to the ICSW Web site. Past honorees have said the award aids in attracting and retaining employees committed to working in a values-driven culture. Being an award recipient also communicates to customers and other stakeholders that it is an organization committed to nurturing the human spirit and making the world a better place.

Herl nominated Prairie View for the award after reading about others that are successful in achieving financial stability and growth by investing in the spiritual support and development of their staff.

“Being a part of the conference is a great opportunity for Prairie View ... I want Prairie View to have an opportunity to network with these organizations so that our evolution can happen in a way that supports our financial growth and nurtures and inspires our staff,” she said.

Kaye agrees: “Connecting with these people and organizations can help Prairie View develop the momentum we need to move forward as an organization and really shine in the healthcare arena.”

Prairie View is the state’s largest private behavioral and mental health services provider, offering a complete range of behavioral and psychiatric services for children, adolescents, adults and older adults, as well as consultation services to businesses and organizations. In addition to the main campus and outpatient offices in Newton, Prairie View has outpatient locations in Hillsboro, Hutchinson, McPherson and Wichita. A provider of services for over 50 years, it is guided by a strong tradition of Christian caring and is a not-for-profit organization.