For Immediate Release: May XX, 2024

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Houses into Homes, Kari Harland, PHD, and Rob Lee, MD, honored at IMS President's Reception

DES MOINES -- The Iowa Medical Society (IMS) proudly announces the recipients of its esteemed 2025 awards, recognizing individuals and organizations whose service and leadership have meaningfully advanced public health and the practice of medicine in Iowa.

Houses into Homes: Washington Freeman Peck Award

The Iowa Medical Society presented the 2025 Washington Freeman Peck Award to *Houses into Homes*, a nonprofit organization based in Iowa City that works to ensure every child and family has a safe, comfortable home. The organization provides gently used beds, furniture, and household items to families and individuals exiting homelessness or domestic violence situations. The Peck Award annually honors lay organizations for outstanding contributions to the health and wellbeing of Iowans, and *Houses into Homes* demonstrates this spirt through its deep commitment to dignity and stability for all.

Kari Harland, PhD, MPH: John F. Sanford Award

IMS awarded the 2025 John F. Sanford award to *Kari Harland, PhD, MPH,* in recognition of her sustained dedication to improving public health through research, education, and advocacy. Dr. Harland is an epidemiologist and assistant professor at the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine, where her work spans injury prevention, maternal and child health, and disparities in care. The Sanford Award honors lay individuals whose contributions to health care or public health have had lasting impact in Iowa and beyond.

Rob Lee, MD: Merit Award

Rob Lee, MD, received the 2025 IMS Merit Award—one of the highest honors presented by the society. Dr. Lee is widely respected for his clinical excellence, leadership within IMS, and dedicated support of Iowa physicians. He has served in numerous IMS roles, including on the Board of Directors and as a trusted voice in statewide policy discussions. The Merit Award recognizes a physician's extraordinary contributions to the medical profession and to the mission of IMS.

These award recipients were celebrated at the IMS President's Reception on May 2 at Hancher Auditorium in Iowa City, held in conjunction with the installation of the new IMS president, *Alison Lynch, MD.* Together, their efforts reflect IMS's proud tradition of honoring those who elevate health care and public service across the state.

About us

Celebrating 175 years, the Iowa Medical Society was established in 1850 and is the largest and oldest statewide professional association for physicians, representing more than 5,000 members. We work to advance the practice of medicine through advocacy, education, and engagement with physicians throughout Iowa to ensure the highest quality of care for the patients they serve. Visit our website at iowamedical.org.

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