

## 2014 NEBRASKA WILLIAMSON AWARD: CHADRON PHYSICIAN HONORED FOR VOLUNTEER MEDICAL SERVICE

If you live in Chadron, Nebraska, you've probably been affected by the work of Dr. Jerry McLain. From his Chief of Staff duties at Chadron Community Hospital to his volunteer work in the public school system to his community involvement, Dr. McLain's reach is both far and wide.

Cheryl Cassidy, the Director of Nursing at Chadron Community Hospital, nominated Dr. McLain for the COPIC Medical Foundation's Nebraska Harold E. Williamson Volunteer Physician Award. The award annually recognizes a volunteer physician in Nebraska and provides a \$10,000 grant to the health-related nonprofit organization of the recipient's choice. After reviewing an impressive slate of candidates, Dr. McLain was selected as our 2014 recipient of this award.

"Dr. McLain is a shining example of a physician who gives to his community through his personal life and volunteerism, as well as his professional life. Chadron is a healthier, safer and more active community because of Dr. McLain's presence," said Cassidy in her nomination letter.

The following physicians were also nominated, and COPIC would like to thank each one for the contributions they make in their communities: David Dyke, M.D., of Lincoln; Mark Emig, M.D., of Omaha; and Thomas Tonniges, M.D., of Omaha.

The award is named for Harold "Hal" Williamson, one of COPIC's first non-physician board members. Hal was instrumental in the creation of the COPIC Medical Foun-



*Dr. McLain (left) received his award on September 12, 2014, as it was presented to him by Sandy Johnson of COPIC.*

dation and after his passing in 2001, the COPIC Medical Foundation created this award to honor Hal's spirit of volunteerism and commitment to philanthropy.

"Dr. McLain's passion for medicine and serving the community of Chadron was apparent in his nomination form. We are most honored to select him for this award, as he embodies the true spirit of medicine and what Harold 'Hal' Williamson set out to accomplish," said Dr. Brian Harrington, Chair of the COPIC Grants Committee.

Dr. McLain directed his \$10,000 grant to the Chadron Community Hospital Physical Therapy Department for equipment upgrades. As Dr. McLain explains, "this will not only benefit our patients, but medical staff can also use it to promote wellness. I have always taken pride in trying to keep myself physically fit, so I am glad to be associated with supporting exercise equipment to promote fitness in others."

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