

COLLEAGUE REFERENCE REQUEST FORM

This letter is written by a colleague from within the organization who is personally well-acquainted with the nominee (e.g. a peer, a supervisee, a supervisor), and who is not the nominator.

Thank you for serving as a colleague reference for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Community Health Leaders Program. We would appreciate a letter from you that gives us a fuller understanding of the nominee.

- We'd like to know what you consider to be her or his greatest contributions to the community.
- We'd like some insight into how this nominee has handled adversity and what risks she or he has taken to accomplish her or his goals.
- Above all, we hope that you can characterize what makes this person stand out for you and how she or he inspires you.

Please be as specific as possible. Anecdotes and examples are encouraged and you may also include additional pertinent information, if brief.

Stacy L. Nichols Judy Berry
Your Name Nominee

MD- Geriatric Psychiatrist CEO
Title Title

Hotchinson Area Health Care Lakeview Ranch, Inc
Organization Organization

1095 Hwy 155
Street

Hotchinson MN 55350
City State Zip

320-234-4610 234-4652
Day Phone Fax

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Please return the reference letter to the nominator who must send the completed nomination packet to the National Program Office by January 8, 2010.

References - 2

**HUTCHINSON AREA HEALTH CARE***Hutchinson Community Hospital**Burns Manor Nursing Home • Dassel Medical Center*

1095 Hwy 15 South Hutchinson, MN 55350 (320) 234-6000

12/14/2009

RE: Nomination for Robert Wood Johnson Community Leader Award: Judy Berry

To Whom It May Concern:

I am privileged to nominate Mrs. Judy Berry for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Community Health Leader Award. Mrs. Berry is the founder of the Lakeview Ranch, which provides innovative Alzheimer's care for clients in all stages of their illness.

As a geriatric psychiatrist working in Hutchinson I have had the opportunity to work with Mrs. Berry for over 10 years. I have known her on a professional basis as we have worked to improve the lives of the clients at her facility. I have been struck by Mrs. Berry living her impassioned mission of providing superior care for clients in a home-like setting. This is not only her goal but it is the mission that she lives every day throughout the day in all that she does. I know that she has sacrificed significant personal finances and gain and endless hours to provide care for these clients.

I have had opportunity to meet with her on numerous occasions as we have discussed cases trying to optimize patients' care minimizing medications and increasing their functionality and independence. She is a very hands-on director, as will often be the person who picks up the phone if I call in the office or the individual accompanying someone to a psychiatric appointment. At times she has surprised me as the bus driver filling in for that position when that job was needed. No task is too small or unimportant for Judy in meeting the care of the clients.

Though I do not know all the details of Judy's life I do know that she lost a close family member due to Alzheimer's disease. That has motivated her for her mission of humane care in a home-like setting. I know that she has put all of her personal assets on the line to build these homes and develop this foundation. It has been a huge commitment of personal time and it has become her life passion. Judy is an advocate in the community educating and teaching wherever she goes. She is resourceful in bringing in experts to educate her staff with increased training to provide increased services.

Of all the people I have met in our health care industry, Judy is the person who with her commitment and passion 24-hours a day exudes optimism and enthusiasm for what she does. She has helped inspire me to not only provide care during my office hours but to reach out into the community sharing my skills and knowledge with educational programs and seminars.

Judy has provided a home environment that any one of us would want our family members to be in if they had the need. I have had the opportunity to speak at her facility and assist in educating her staff. I had told them my hope was that I could be on the waiting list for a room when that time comes. It is the highest compliment I can pay her and her staff.

I wholeheartedly nominate Mrs. Judy Berry for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
Community Health Leaders Program.

Sincerely,



Stacy L. Nichols, MD
Board Certified Adult and Geriatric Psychiatrist
Hutchinson Area Health Care

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