

The New Hampshire Nurse Practitioner Association announces the NP of the Year Award.

The NP of the Year Committee is made up of former recipients The NHNPA Nurse Practitioner of the Year:

- Must be a NH-licensed Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner;
- Must be an active, full member of the New Hampshire Nurse Practitioner Association; and once the ARNP has been chosen as the New Hampshire Nurse Practitioner of the Year, this nominee will then be nominated by NHNPA for the American College of Nurse Practitioner award and the NHNA Nurse of the Year award (if an NHNA member).
- Must have made a significant contribution to the role of the Nurse Practitioner at the state and/or national level, in one or more of the following areas: clinical, legislative, education and research.

The recipient this year is a very sought after speaker for education and was even asked to be a speaker at the NH Medical Society educational program this fall, but had to decline because she was already booked! She is owner and Family Nurse Practitioner of Wright and Associates Family Healthcare, and employs 3 NPs. She is a Partner with Partners in Healthcare Education, a medical education company.

Wendy has not only educated her staff to identify potential restrictions to independent practice authority, but she loses no time in collecting valuable information, which is then passed along to NHNPA to determine a course of action. The quick thinking of her Office Manager, coupled with good follow-up on Wendy's part, was instrumental in the positive outcome we achieved in 2008 when Anthem attempted to require an MD signature for credentialing of all nurse practitioners, nationwide.

Wendy's work in 2008 on behalf of advanced practice nursing has had, and will continue to have, a positive impact on professional practice. Her colleagues had the following comments to make about her.

From a policy perspective, Wendy is one of the most cutting-edge thinkers in advanced practice today. In addition to establishing a healthcare education company, and an NP-owned family care practice, Wendy has taken a leadership role in bringing together other entrepreneurial nurse practitioners, to share information, provide support, and get their issues on the radar of policymakers. In 2008, the group convened monthly and established itself as the NH Chamber of Entrepreneurial NPs. "Her contributions are well regarded and have promoted the role of NPs locally and nationally. She is a competent and compassionate practitioner deserving of this honor."

"She is a wonderful role model for all NP's"

She "has been a pacesetter in entrepreneurial ventures and is a nationally recognized speaker on health care issues."

She "has a great speaking ability and has been verbal for her advocacy of NP's in NH. She is an entrepreneur, which in and of it self is no easy task for an NP in NH. "Fantastic candidate" "She is outstanding in every way. She has achieved so much in what I would call a short time in enhancing the image and role of NP's. Her accomplishments are endless as is her energy." "...she has made outstanding contributions to NP practice and advancement of the role and visibility of nurse practitioners to the community at large. She continues to be an advocate for nurse practitioners and for quality healthcare given by Nurse Practitioners in the state of NH." "I too would support Wendy Wright for NP of the Year. She is an outstanding speaker, an entrepreneur role model, a strong NP advocate & visionary leader in health care delivery."

Congratulations to Wendy L. Wright, ARNP, of Wright & Associates Family Healthcare PLLC, Amherst, NH and Partners in Healthcare Education, LLC, Bedford, NH.