

# NEWS RELEASE



**Date:** Thursday, June 30, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**For more information, please contact:**

Kathie Itter, WOMA Executive Director

(206) 937-5358 | [kitter@woma.org](mailto:kitter@woma.org)

Amber Betts, YVFWC Communications Coordinator

509.865.6175 ext. 3673 | [AmberBe@yvfwc.org](mailto:AmberBe@yvfwc.org)

## **Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic Physician Earns State-Wide Honor**

***Washington Osteopathic Medical Association Names Dr. Katheryn Norris, 2016 Physician of the Year***

Washington Osteopathic Medical Association (WOMA) is pleased to announce the WOMA Physician of the Year: Katheryn Norris, DO.

Dr. Norris is a physician at the Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic (YVFWC) Grandview Medical-Dental Clinic and serves as the residency director for the Sollus Northwest Family Medicine Residency Program.

The 2016 Physician of the Year award was announced at the WOMA Annual Northwest Osteopathic Convention June 23-26 in Blaine, Washington.

When making this decision, the WOMA Board of Directors takes into consideration a number of qualities. Sometimes a physician is nominated by a patient, colleague or staff because of his or her caring nature and service above self. Sometimes a recipient is a leader of the profession that has served in one or several capacities over the years. Sometimes the recipient is an educator or a mentor, or in this year's case, both.

Dr. Norris was chosen for this honor because of her mentorship to young physicians, including the residency program as well as other pre-med forums she has participated in over the years.

"She's been a leader to students, and the students depend on her, they value her," WOMA Executive Director Kathie Itter said.

Dr. Norris received her degree from Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine in Kirksville, Missouri. She completed her residency at the Mayo Clinic Family Medicine Residency in Scottsdale, Arizona. In 2012, Dr. Norris launched the Sollus Northwest Family Medicine Residency Program.

"We are proud to call the WOMA Physician of the Year one of our own," YVFWC Chief Medical Officer Kevin Heidrick said. "Dr. Norris truly deserves the honor of 'Physician of the year' as she daily displays the YVFWC mission, 'Together, we are dedicated to lead with the courage to care, the determination to promote personal growth and the compassion to champion the cause of those who have no voice'.

"She has been influential in leading the first Sollus Northwest Family Medicine Residency class to graduation with her remarkable mentorship and leadership. She truly deserves this honor."

**Photo Caption: WOMA President Dr. Scott Fannin presents Dr. Katheryn Norris with the 2016 Physician of the Year award.**

####

**About Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic:** *The Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that provides comprehensive medical, dental, and social services for more than 141,000 people throughout the Pacific Northwest. Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic employs 1,390 full-time staff and more than 600 part-time staff, medical residents, dental residents, students and volunteers. Facilities: 19 medical clinics, 10 dental clinics, 57 programs. Locations: Washington State clinics are located in Grandview, Prosser, Pasco, Spokane, Sunnyside, Toppenish, Yakima, Walla Walla and Wapato. In Oregon, clinics are located in Hermiston, Portland, Salem and Woodburn. Visit: [www.yvfwc.com](http://www.yvfwc.com)*