MARK W. LARSON, MD NAMED
WASHINGTON FAMILY PHYSICIAN OF THE YEAR

Bellevue - The Washington Academy of Family Physicians (WAFP) has named Ellensburg physician, Mark W. Larson, MD, as Family Physician of the Year for 2015. The prestigious award is given annually by WAFP to a family physician who exemplifies a compassionate commitment to improving the health and well-being of people and communities throughout Washington.

Dr. Larson is an exceptional family physician who places high priority on family, friends, and his community. He exudes profound integrity, a continued sense of curiosity and caring for others above self. He works as a full spectrum family physician in Ellensburg, Washington, doing hospital work, operative obstetrics, medical education, and volunteer work at the local free clinic while also serving as a Kittitas County Public Health officer.

Dr. Larson began his medical career at the University of Kansas School of Medicine, and stayed on as a teacher in the family medicine residency, after which he spent time in Africa providing healthcare as a volunteer physician. Upon returning to the U.S., he joined the Valley Clinic in Ellensburg in 1998 and immediately began working on acquiring a start-up grant to establish the Ellensburg Free Clinic in 1999.

Respected by his colleagues, Dr. Larson is appreciated for his knowledge and commitment to improving the health of patients by taking a lead role in the implementation of Electronic Health Records for his own practice and for the Kittitas County Health Department. His efforts allowed the health department to be selected as a national demonstration site for the National Association of City and County Health Officials and the American Public Health Association.

Dr. Larson is appreciated by his patients, for his compassion, attention to detail, and his commitment to the full spectrum of care for all members of each family. One family’s description of the impact Mark has had on their lives considers him a combination of ‘brilliance and humility’ who always ‘goes the extra mile’ to ensure that patients receive the best possible care.
As a teacher, Mark’s students benefit from his personal, intensive and caring instruction, as well as his propensity to engage them in discussion of the world, global issues, family, work-life balance, and what it means to ‘make a difference’.

Dr. Larson received the award at the WAFP’s annual meeting on May 8, 2015 at the Semiahmoo Resort in Blaine, WA. With over 3000 members the WAFP is the largest medical specialty professional organization in Washington. It is comprised of physicians, residents and students who specialize in Family Medicine. The organization works to influence the development of health care policy that will provide optimal healthcare for all citizens of Washington State.

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For more information about Dr. Larson, or the Washington Academy of Family Physicians, please contact Karla Graue Pratt, Executive Vice President at:

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