

**Fran Feltner awarded KRHA’s Dan Martin Award**

*Award honors lifetime contribution to rural health in Kentucky*

For Immediate Release

Media Contact:

Tina McCormick

[krha@twc.com](mailto:krha@twc.com)

(270) 577-1707

**September 21, 2016** – The Kentucky Rural Health Association (KRHA), which is dedicated to improving the health status of rural Kentuckians through education and advocacy, has announced the 2016 Dan Martin Award recipient, Dr. Fran Feltner.

Dr. Fran Feltner has served the residents of Kentucky’s rural counties for nearly 40 years. She has served as a nurse in clinics, hospitals and as a director of community health workers. Since June 2011 she has been serving as Director of the University of Kentucky’s Center of Excellence in Rural Health in Hazard, KY. Dr. Feltner has played a key role in developing and implementing innovative solutions to problems and challenges of rural Kentuckians in many ways but most notably with the development of the Kentucky Homeplace, a community health worker program. The evidence-based program, under Dr. Feltner’s leadership, has shown positive health outcomes for low-income Kentuckians facing diabetes, cancer, and other chronic illnesses. Dr. Feltner’s steadfast leadership and compassion are just two of the many qualities that have led to the success of this program and the many other projects.

The Dan Martin Award is provided to an individual who has provided a lifetime contribution to rural health in Kentucky. Named after the first awardee, this award honors an individual who has contributed many years of service to direct patient care, health professions education, health administration, health promotions or public advocacy. Candidates are selected based upon their 1)life-long contributions to rural health in Kentucky 2)role in developing or implementing innovative solutions to problems and challenges 3)profession type and 4)member of KRHA.

Susan Zepeda, former President/CEO of the Foundation for A Healthy Kentucky, nominated Dr. Feltner and allowed KRHA the opportunity to present the award at the 14th Annual Howard Bost Health Policy Forum on September 20, 2016. KRHA would like to extend a special thanks to the Foundation for the opportunity to present the award.

Kentucky will continue to benefit from the efforts of Dr. Feltner for many years and it is with great honor that KRHA recognizes her service and contributions for a healthier Kentucky.

For more information about the Kentucky Rural Health Association visit [www.kyrha.org](http://www.kyrha.org) or for more information on this award and release, contact

Tina McCormick, Executive Director – [krha@twc.org](mailto:krha@twc.org) - (270) 577-1707

*Photo (see below): L-R Ben Chandler, President/CEO Foundation for a Health Kentucky; Dr. Fran Feltner, Director University of Kentucky Center for Excellence in Rural Health; Susan Zepeda, Former President/CEO Foundation for a Health Kentucky; Andrew Bledsoe, President Kentucky Rural Health Association – Presentation of the Dan Martin Award at the Howard Bost Health Policy Forum in Lexington, KY.*

**

###