

2024 Copic Humanitarian Award-North Dakota:

Dr. Joan Connell

Copic and the North Dakota Medical Association (NDMA) are proud to announce that Dr. Joan Connell is the 2024 recipient of the Copic Humanitarian Award. Dr. Connell is a pediatrician from Bismarck, ND recognized for her contributions to the health and well-being of her patients.



For 22 years, Dr. Connell has been fiercely dedicated to improving the health of her patients. She works tirelessly outside of office visits to support the acute and chronic needs of patients, including those with medical complexity.

Known for volunteering on her own time, Dr. Connell is the go-to expert for navigating challenging aspects of patient care. She's admired by her peers for her intense desire to improve the health trajectory of her patients. She advocates for tobacco prevention, educates communities on pandemic safety measures, and assists Medicaid patients in navigating the healthcare system. Dr. Connell has secured grants to provide additional services for Native Americans and underserved populations.

As chair of the North Dakota Medical Association's Physician Advisory Group, Dr. Connell brings together public health leaders, state officials, and physicians for regular meetings to share

critical healthcare information, including vaccine distribution, disease control, and community health worker updates. Her volunteer leadership has been essential to the group's success, creating a valuable network for knowledge-sharing and collaboration. Additionally, as president of NDMA's Sixth District, she promotes physician leadership.

The recipient of this award is asked to designate a \$10,000 donation from Copic to be provided to a healthcare-related nonprofit organization within their community. Dr. Connell chose Soul 57, an organization that helps children navigate grief.

Each year the Copic Humanitarian Award recognizes a physician for volunteer medical services and contributions to their community. Dr. Connell received the Copic Humanitarian Award on October 4 at the North Dakota Medical Association Annual Meeting and Leadership Awards. The award is presented jointly by NDMA and Copic, NDMA's endorsed medical liability insurance carrier.

To learn more about the Copic Humanitarian Award or to nominate a physician, visit our website: www.copic.com/about-copic/copic-humanitarian-award or email Laura Wadleigh at lwadleigh@copic.com.