MATFORCE Earns National Award of Excellence

Prescott Valley, Arizona

The National Rural Alcohol and Drug Abuse Network awarded MATFORCE its Exceptional Rural Community Award for 2016. This Award of Excellence is given annually to a community that has established exceptional services to the rural alcohol and drug abuse field, which helps to improve the lives of those who suffer the effects of alcohol and drug abuse.

John Schuderer, MATFORCE’s Intervention Workgroup Chairperson, received the award on behalf of MATFORCE on June 15, 2016 in Menomonie, Wisconsin.

Schuderer said, “After attending the MATFORCE 10th Anniversary event in February, I felt that MATFORCE was an outstanding candidate for this award and made the nomination. MATFORCE is an exemplary coalition, bringing together hundreds of people, agencies and organizations from across the county, working on ways to reduce substance abuse and improve lives.”

MATFORCE’s nomination highlighted 36 major projects, including the 2006 city ordinance placing OTC medications that contain pseudoephedrine behind counters, the 2007 anti-drug decals placed on 230 school buses throughout Yavapai County, the 2010 ‘first in nation’ to install Rx drop boxes at police departments, the 2012 ban on the sale of synthetic drugs in Yavapai County and its K-12 school prevention programs that span a decade.

Schuderer added, “It is an honor and a privilege to accept this award on behalf of MATFORCE.”

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