

**Deanna Twyman, APRN**  
**Conway Family Clinic, Inc – Conway, MO**

***Deanna (Dee) Twyman's nomination read:***

It is my pleasure to nominate Deanna (Dee) Twyman for the Rural Health Champion Individual Award for 2019. Dee has been owner and operator of Conway Family Clinic Inc. for the past 23 years.

Dee was born and raised in the Rader, MO area located about 10 miles outside of Conway. She is the second of five children. Her father was a dairy farmer and her mother was a social worker for the elderly, with the state. She graduated from Conway High School in 1975. Then proceeded to the University of Missouri – Columbia where she graduated with her BSN in December of 1979.

Following her graduation, she worked at numerous locations including Breech Medical Center in Lebanon, MO and as a staff nurse at St. John's Home Health Care. She was the Community Health Nurse III at Webster County Health Unit, in Marshfield MO. She worked all aspects of community health and coordinated the WIC Program for the county. While at the health department, she also received her Mastery in Physical Assessment from the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) and did assessments of children during Child Health Conferences.

In 1991, she became a Community Health Nurse V, Care Coordination Supervisor and Quality Assurance (QA) Specialist in the Bureau of AIDS Prevention for DHSS. She was responsible for the QA aspects of the Missouri Medicaid AIDS Waiver Program and carried a caseload of HIV positive clients. She returned to the University of Missouri-Columbia to continue her education, graduating with her MSN in August of 1993. After graduation, she became the Clinical Director of Phelps County Health Department in Rolla, MO. She worked as a Nurse Practitioner and authored the policies and protocols for Family Planning, Breast, and Cervical Cancer Control projects. In December of 1995, she began as a Family Nurse Practitioner for Wallace-Podhorn Health Care Services in Lebanon, MO.

In August of 1996 she opened Conway Family Clinic Inc. located in Conway MO and works as the owner and operator of her independent rural health clinic. Dee has been a staple of the Conway community. She has promoted health care through flu clinics at the senior center in town. Dee has worked with state agencies to improve health care of our rural patients including the Vaccine for Children's program, to provide free immunizations to our un-insured or under insured members, and the Show Me Healthy Women's program to help provide free screening for breast and cervical cancer.

Dee's entire working life has focused on helping and providing care for others, mostly in rural settings. She was born and raised in the rural environment and has spent numerous years and countless hours working to improve the health care of rural families. This is why I feel she is the epitome of a Rural Health Champion!