



For Immediate Release  
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## **Vermont Medical Society Honors Outstanding Service to Health Care and Community**

**Montpelier, Vt.** (October 31, 2018) – The Vermont Medical Society (VMS) recognized seven Vermonters for their outstanding contributions to the health and well being of the state’s residents during their 205<sup>th</sup> annual meeting held October 27, in Stowe, Vt.

**Frank Ittleman, M.D.**, of Burlington, VT, was awarded the Distinguished Service Award for his exceptional impact on his patients and his valuable contribution to the science and art of medicine in Vermont. Dr. Ittleman is known for his decades of clinical service as an extraordinary cardiothoracic surgeon who has saved the lives of countless Vermonters and for his dedication to the healing arts through the written and spoken word and the visual arts themselves. In recent years, he and his wife created the Lemon Fair Sculpture Garden in Shoreham, Vermont, in order to bring joy and healing to Vermonters.

Dr. Ittleman has directed the division of Cardiothoracic Surgery at the UVM Medical Center and has served in an academic capacity as professor of Surgery in the Department of Surgery at the Larner College of Medicine at UVM in Burlington, VT for more than two decades.

The Distinguished Service Award, the highest award VMS can bestow upon one of its members, is given on the basis of meritorious service in the science and art of medicine and for outstanding contributions to the medical profession, its organizations, and the welfare of the public.

**Barb Frankowski, M.D., MPH, FAAP**, of Jericho, VT, was awarded for her exemplary service as a pediatrician that goes far beyond the clinic walls into schools, homes and communities of the children and families she serves. She established and led student health initiatives in the Burlington School District for decades, teaching youth about

puberty, emotional health, the dangers of drugs and the importance of safer sex practices. Dr. Frankowski also created school-based health clinics in Burlington, allowing youth to be seen by a pediatrician where they spend the majority of their time. She has a powerful impact on a local, state and national level while serving patient needs day to day.

Dr. Frankowski's Burlington-based pediatric clinic where she practiced is within the UVM Health Network and she is a professor of General Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine in the Department of Pediatrics at the Larner College of Medicine at UVM in Burlington, VT.

The Physician of the Year Award is granted annually to a physician licensed in the state of Vermont who has demonstrated: outstanding performance in the quality of care given to his/her patients; skillful and compassionate patient care; and, dedication to the welfare of his patients in accordance with accepted principles of good medical practice.

Mark Yorra, M.D., of Plainfield, VT, received the Physician Award for Community Services for his record of exceptional skills as a physician and depth of humanity that exemplifies the finest ideals of medical practice. He is described as a uniquely generous individual whose service to those in need in his community is legendary.

Dr. Yorra created his medical practice, Granite City Primary Care, over 25 years ago and was instrumental in opening the People's Wellness Clinic, of which he has been the medical director for over 20 years.

The Physician Award for Community Services is granted annually to a physician who has compiled an outstanding record of community service, which, apart from his or her specific identification as a physician, reflects well on the profession.

The Citizen of the Year Award was awarded to **Cornelius "Con" Hogan** posthumously of Plainfield, VT, for a legacy of striving to improve the overall health of Vermont children and families and selflessly dedicating his life to helping others. On a personal level, Mr. Hogan was known as warm, caring, compassionate, and always mindful of the impact of his actions on others.

Mr. Hogan, was also a fearless advocate for health reform, serving the State of Vermont throughout his life as the Commissioner of the Department of Corrections, the Secretary of the Agency of Human Services and most recently, a six-year member of the Green Mountain Care Board. His wife, Jeanette Hogan, and his son, Neil Hogan, accepted his award.

The Citizen of the Year Award is given to a non-physician resident of the state of Vermont who in the past and presently has made a significant contribution to the health of the people of Vermont.

**Governor Phil Scott, Senator Phillip Baruth and Eliot Nelson, M.D.** were each honored with the VMS Founder's Award for excellent service to the people of Vermont in their role in advancing landmark gun violence prevention legislation in Vermont. Governor Scott received the award for his decision to sign firearm violence protection bills into law this year, amidst fierce opposition, showing great strength and character. Senator Baruth received the award for his unwavering advocacy for gun violence prevention legislation throughout the course of several years, despite many roadblocks and adversity. Dr. Nelson received the award for his deep caring for the youth of Vermont and his staunch, consistent advocacy for firearm injury prevention.

The Founders' Award is presented to individuals who have demonstrated outstanding leadership, vision, and achievement in improving the health of Vermonters and all Americans.

**About the Vermont Medical Society:** The Vermont Medical Society is the leading voice of physicians in the state and is dedicated to advancing the practice of medicine by advocating on behalf of Vermont's doctors and the patients and communities they care for. The Society serves its 2,000 members through public policy advocacy on the state and federal levels, as well as by providing legal, administrative and educational support, producing a rich flow of news and information and offering member benefits that increase medical practice effectiveness and efficiency. For more information, visit [www.VTMD.org](http://www.VTMD.org).