Announcement from the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG):

The 2019 Haffner Award

CAPT Rachel E. Locker, MD is the 2019 recipient of the prestigious ACOG Outstanding AI/AN Women’s Healthcare Clinician Award, also known as the William H.J. Haffner AI/AN Women’s Health Award.

On Monday, August 5, 2019, in Oklahoma City, OK, Dr. Rachel Locker will be recognized at the ACOG Course: “Best Practices in Women’s Health: Focus on American Indian / Alaska Native Women’s Health” for her exemplary leadership and her career-long commitment to the highest standards of clinical care for women through her practice of Family Medicine at the Warm Springs Health and Wellness Center, Warm Springs, OR, and for her numerous impactful roles in the Portland Area Indian Health Service (IHS) regionally and the entire IHS nationally. Of note, she will participate as a member of the faculty for this course.

She is a highly skilled provider of culturally sensitive and clinically appropriate women’s health care and prenatal care at Warm Springs, effectively coordinating that care within the local community and with the local hospitals. In her role as Clinical Director she assures that the same high standards are met by all of the other providers, as well. She is an effective voice within a multi-community group that has been tasked with guiding decisions for regional obstetrical and neonatal care. For more than two decades she has been a critical and highly effective catalyst for the development and promotion of culturally appropriate training materials in support of the local and state-wide sexual assault, domestic violence, and child abuse prevention and intervention efforts within the American Indian and non-Indian communities. She is widely recognized as the subject matter expert in these areas in the Portland Area and throughout the IHS. Among her many professional recognitions and honors, she is recipient of the IHS National Council of Clinical Directors Outstanding Physician of the Year Award and the Direct Services Tribes Outstanding Achievement Award for Service in the IHS Direct Care Programs.

Dr. Locker, by her sustained superior performance, career-long commitment to quality clinical care and education, and her dedication to promoting and advancing the health and well-being of American Indian and Alaska Native women has clearly earned the distinction of being the 2019 recipient of the prestigious award of the Committee on American Indian and Alaska Native Women’s Health of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, the “Haffner Award.”
Previous recipients of the Haffner AI/AN Women’s Health Award include:

- 2018  Glen Y. Kishi, MD, Obstetrician-Gynecologist
- 2017  Ursula Knoki-Wilson, Certified Nurse Midwife
- 2016  Amanda Leib, MD, Obstetrician-Gynecologist
- 2015  Marilyn Pierce-Bulger, Certified Nurse Midwife
- 2014  John S. Condojani, DO, Family Practitioner
- 2013  Ann Glasheen, Family Nurse Practitioner
- 2012  Judith Thierry, DO, Pediatrician
- 2011  Nigel Wappett, MD, Obstetrician-Gynecologist

Nominations for recipients of this annual ACOG award for 2020 will be solicited throughout the Indian Health system in several months. Please consider nominating a provider who demonstrates the outstanding caliber of those already recognized when the nominations are opened for the next award cycle. Clinicians could be, but do not need to be, obstetricians and gynecologists. Any health care professional such as a family physician, physician assistant, registered nurse, certified nurse midwife, or nurse practitioner can be nominated for this award. Nominees must clearly demonstrate sustained commitment and dedication to providing exceptional care to AI/AN women, and they must be currently working within an IHS or Tribal position or be recently retired from such a position. The chair of the ACOG AI/AN Committee on Women’s Health serves as the chair of the awards committee. The IHS Chief Clinical Consultant for Obstetrics and Gynecology serves as a non-voting resource to the awards committee. An endowed fund raised by contributions from friends of ACOG and its Indian women’s health initiatives is matched by the College’s overall endowment to support the cost of sustaining this annual award process.