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Area Nutritionists Win Annual Laura K. Savage Award

Oklahoma’s Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program recently hosted the 2014 Nutrition and Breastfeeding Conference in Norman. A highlight of the conference each year is the announcement of the winner of the annual Laura K. Savage Creativity in Nutrition Education Award. This award allows students and nutrition educators to showcase their talent and creativity by participating in a poster contest. The winning entry of the 2014 contest is titled Shop WIC Foods. This poster was created by Jenna Holland and Sarah Devane, registered dietitians at the Canadian County Health Department.

Holland and Devane’s submission was designed to inform participants of key nutrients they receive from their WIC foods and how the nutrients are important for their health. Magnesium, folic acid, iron and calcium were the focus for this project. A farmer's market theme using baskets was chosen to present this message. Each basket contained actual WIC foods and a sign naming the nutrient those foods provide and the function. Easy-to-make recipes, along with WIC food ingredients, were also included on the board.

This board will help participants understand the importance of the foods they are given through WIC and develop an appreciation for nutritious foods, how they prevent disease, and promote a healthy life.

The Laura K. Savage Creativity in Nutrition Education Award is named in memory of Laura K. Savage, former WIC Nutrition Education Coordinator. Laura lost her life in 2001 in a car accident. Nutrition education was Laura’s passion. She was dedicated to developing new ways to educate participants about WIC.

Fifty-two students from Oklahoma State University, the University of Oklahoma and the University of Central Oklahoma participated in the contest. Eleven WIC nutrition educators from across the state also submitted poster entries. Shop WIC Foods will be showcased at the National WIC Association’s 31st Annual Conference in Pittsburg, PA, in May 2014.

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Editors: Please note jpg file attached to this email for photograph of winners.
Caption: Jenna Holland (left) and Sarah Devane