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NEWS RELEASE For Immediate Release

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<u>Iowa Dental Hygienists' Association and Polk County Health Department</u> <u>Honored by Iowa CareGivers</u>

The Iowa Dental Hygienists' Association (IDHA) and Polk County Health Department are being honored with the Iowa CareGivers' *From the Heart* recognition on August 24, 2015.

Both organizations are being acknowledged for their significant contributions in providing free health and oral health care screenings for direct care workers who attend lowa CareGivers statewide conferences. "The screenings are so valuable because it's difficult to get off work to go to the doctor and it's expensive. By doing the free health screenings you can find out if there is something going on before you go to the doctor," said Tracy Hoveland, CNA.

Both Polk County Health Department and the Iowa Dental Hygienists' Association have provided the time, expertise, and even the supplies needed to make the free screenings possible. The screenings include a personal consultation to educate participants about the screening outcomes.

The recognition acknowledges organizations and individuals who have contributed time and resources to support direct care workers and the work and mission of the lowa CareGivers.

lowa CareGivers mission is to provide education, recognition, advocacy, and research in support of those who work in the field of direct care such as Certified Nursing Assistants, Home Health and Hospice Aides, and Direct Support Professionals. These individuals provide hands-on care and supportive services to lowans of all ages in various locations from the homes of the individuals served and hospitals to nursing homes and hospices, and settings that serve children and adults with disabilities.

lowa CareGivers is an independent nonprofit nonpartisan organization founded in 1992 to ensure that all lowans have access to good care and support when and where they need it. It does that by focusing on policies and practices that serve the needs of the direct care workforce and the lowans they serve. For more information contact the lowa CareGivers at information@iowacaregivers.org or www.iowacaregivers.org