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Wisconsin LGBT Chamber Announces Winners of 2017 Business Awards

Froedtert & MCW health network recognized as Corporate Partner of the Year

MILWAUKEE — The Wisconsin LGBT Chamber of Commerce today announced the winners of its annual Business Awards, a program that recognizes the contributions made by Chamber members to building a more diverse and inclusive community in Wisconsin.

“The Wisconsin LGBT Chamber of Commerce is proud to recognize these great award recipients for all that they have done to build a more diverse and inclusive business community in Wisconsin,” said Jason Rae, President & CEO of the Wisconsin LGBT Chamber of Commerce. “These winners represent the creativity, the determination, and the diversity of the Wisconsin business community and they are committed to building a pro-fairness business community in Wisconsin.”

Those businesses and individuals receiving awards are:

- **Corporate Partner of the Year: Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin health network**
This award is given to a corporation that is a member of the LGBT Chamber that has shown a commitment to diversity in the workplace and has worked to positively grow the LGBT and allied business community around the state. Specifically, the Froedtert & MCW health network has been instrumental in growing and supporting the LGBT Chamber by serving as a Platinum Founding member, in helping sponsor the first ever Pride Night with the Milwaukee Bucks, and engaging LGBTBEs through their supplier diversity initiative.
- **LGBT Business of the Year: Accurate Web Solution** (Green Bay, WI)
This award is given to an LGBT-owned business that is a member of the Chamber, is an active participant in building a more diverse business community in Wisconsin and has a proven track record of success and involvement. Accurate Web Solution, owned by Robert McCarthy, is a certified LGBT Business Enterprise that has been active in LGBT Chamber events, including serving as a regional ambassador in northeastern Wisconsin.
- **Allied Business of the Year: Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport Hotel** (Milwaukee, WI)
This award is given to an allied-owned business that is a member of the Chamber, is an active participant in building a more diverse business community in Wisconsin and has a proven track record of success and involvement. Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport Hotel has been an active Chamber member since 2015. They have participated actively in the LGBT Wedding Showcase and Out In The Kitchen, and have worked intentionally to support LGBT visitors to the hotel.

The logo features three stylized, overlapping wavy lines in green, purple, and blue, positioned to the left of the text.

Wisconsin LGBT Chamber of Commerce

- **Nonprofit Organization of the Year: Fair Wisconsin** (Madison, WI)
This award is given to a nonprofit organization that is a member of the Chamber who has a proven track record of success and involvement and is committed to building a diverse community. Fair Wisconsin has participated actively in the Chamber since its initial founding in 2012. Fair Wisconsin has been advocating tirelessly in the Wisconsin State Legislature for policies that will build a strong pro-fairness community throughout the state.
- **Business Leader of the Year: Terri Coughlin of Coughlin Consulting** (Milwaukee, WI)
This award is given to a hard-working and creative individual who has had a positive professional and personal impact on building a diverse business community in Wisconsin. Terri Coughlin has been an active and forceful leader in growing the LGBT community. She owns a certified LGBT Business Enterprise and has been active in LGBT issues in the community, including past service on the board of Cream City Foundation.
- **Advocate of the Year: Dan Schoepke of Alliant Energy** (Madison, WI)
This award is given to an individual who has been a strong advocate for inclusion and diversity within the larger business community. Dan Schoepke has been an active ally supporting Alliant Energy's employee resource group, as well as helping the group connect to other ERGs in the area. He was also instrumental in including LGBT Business Enterprises in Alliant Energy's Supplier Diversity program.

Each winner demonstrates a strong commitment to diversity in the workplace, has a proven record of community involvement, and has worked to positively grow the LGBT and allied business community in Wisconsin.

The awards will be presented at the Chamber's Anniversary Celebration and Business Showcase on Wednesday, September 27 at the Potawatomi Hotel & Casino in Milwaukee. The event runs from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. and the presentation of awards will take place at 6:45 p.m. The public is invited to attend. Registration is requested and can be done online at www.wislgbtchamber.com/anniversary.

The Wisconsin LGBT Chamber of Commerce is an organization of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and LGBT-allied businesses, corporations and professionals throughout the state of Wisconsin. It offers networking opportunities, business development efforts within the LGBT community, and educational programming to its members. The organization has 500 members from around the state. In 2015, the Wisconsin LGBT Chamber of Commerce received the National Chamber of the Year Award from the National Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce (NGLCC). More information can be found online at: www.wislgbtchamber.com.