

May 26, 2017

Business Record
2017 Business Record Women of Influence Award
100 SW 4th Street
Des Moines, IA 50309

To the Selection Committee:

It is my honor and privilege to support of the nomination of Julie Fidler Dixon for the 2017 Business Record Women of Influence Award.

Julie is a nationally known leader in the field of acquired brain injury as evidenced by her active participation in task forces and boards on the local, state and national levels. She has shared her vast expertise through service on the Brain Injury Association of America (BIAA) Board of Directors, on BIAA's Medical Panel, and as chairperson of the BIAA Business and Professional Council.

She has been a professional surveyor for the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) since 2000 and is one of the few chosen for international evaluations due to her vast knowledge and unique emphasis on the family and person-served perspective. Julie passionately pursues the shift from a traditional medical model of rehabilitation to one truly based on the unique needs of individuals with brain injury.

Under Julie's leadership, On With Life has become well known for its unique Disorders of Consciousness program and the exceptional protocols developed by On With Life for treating these individuals have been requested for programs in China and the Middle East. In many ways Julie is a pioneer in brain injury. She was the first woman in the United States to work in the correctional facility work release program and the first person enrolled in Drake University's Rehabilitation Job Placement/Job Development program. She has dedicated nearly four decades to helping those with physical disability, mental health needs, special education needs, workers comp injuries and brain injury.

Julie will retire at the end of this year. When she does so, the rehabilitation community will lose one of its finest champions and biggest advocates. Fortunately, her legacy will continue on through the lives of those she's impacted – the thousands of survivors and their families.

Sincerely,



Susan H. Connors
President and CEO