

ANFP Recognizes 2021 Award Recipients at Annual Conference & Expo (ACE)

Released: 15-July-2021

Contact Information

Emmy Bender

Association of Nutrition & Foodservice Professionals

Marketing Associate

ebender@ANFPonline.org

800.323.1908 x127

St. Charles, IL - The Association of Nutrition & Foodservice Professionals (ANFP) presented annual awards to recipients last month at the Annual Conference & Expo (ACE). Award recipients are individuals or ANFP Corporate Partners that consistently demonstrate unwavering dedication to the association and to the foodservice industry as a whole. The ANFP Awards Program strives to celebrate foodservice industry innovators and applauds individuals who advance and support foodservice professionals and the Certified Dietary Manager, Certified Food Protection Professional (CDM®, CFPP®) credential.

Honorees are selected by the ANFP Awards & Recognition Committee after nomination. This year's recipients were recognized at the Honors Gala, which closed out ACE on Wednesday, June 30, 2021. Their acceptance speeches are also available for viewing exclusively on [ANFPtv](#). The following recipients were honored this year:

Ambassador Award

The Ambassador Award is dedicated to an industry colleague, such as an administrator or dietitian, who demonstrates continuous commitment to the CDM, CFPP credential through mentoring and support of the nutrition and foodservice department leader within their facility. Congratulations, Doris Freeman!



Doris Freeman is a 21-year veteran of the food service industry. She is a 1989 graduate of Chess Champion-Magnet School “Martires de Barbado,” a prestigious athletic school in La Habana, Cuba. Doris is currently the Director of Food and Nutrition Services with Sodexo at the Waterman Village Community in Mount Dora, FL.

Doris is committed to the experience and knowledge that a CDM, CFPP brings to the facility's environment. She values employee opinions and often implements changes based off employee suggestions to demonstrate her support. Doris collaborates with staff and clients to make certain residents live their best lives.

CDM, CFPP Spotlight Award

*The CDM, CFPP Spotlight Award honors a member that has received their chapter's CDM, CFPP of the Year award or was named as the CDM, CFPP of the Month in Nutrition & Foodservice edge Magazine in 2020/2021. This member has proven to be a devoted member to the chapter as well as to ANFP. **Congratulations, Milton McGowian, MBA, CDM, CFPP, FMP, MCP!***



Milton L. McGowian, MBA, CDM, CFPP, FMP, MCP is a native Floridian, where he began his career at the North Florida Retirement Village in Gainesville. While there, he worked as a sous chef, assistant director, and director of culinary operations over a span of 14 years. Milton began working as the Director of Dining Services at Sharon Towers in Charlotte, NC in January 2019, and became a CDM, CFPP in 2020.

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, Milton had to change the way the facility provided service to both residents and staff. He rose to the challenge and was able to accomplish this while reducing overtime for his department to almost zero. Milton received his BS in Business Administration in 2018 (with Cum Laude honors), his Master of Business Administration in 2019, and he is currently a doctoral candidate at the school of business at Liberty University.

Chapter Volunteer of the Year Award & Distinguished Service Award (Member)

The Chapter Volunteer of the Year Award recognizes an outstanding chapter volunteer that serves as a positive example to others, and whose dedicated service, time, and efforts to the foodservice industry help to advance the mission of ANFP at the state level.

*The Distinguished Service Award (Member) recognizes a member who has exhibited strong support for ANFP and its mission: Position the CDM, CFPP as the expert in Foodservice Management and Food Safety. **Congratulations, Tamra Rutten, CDM, CFPP!***



Tami Rutten, CDM, CFPP has been a member of ANFP since 1992. After enrolling in the CDM, CFPP course from Florida State Gainesville, she immediately became active in her district in northwest Louisiana and served in various chapter roles, eventually serving as president. During her term, Louisiana ANFP received the coveted Diamond Award for the first time.

Tami demonstrates an extraordinary commitment to the ANFP community by providing exceptional support to new members. She is a true champion of the foodservice industry, has exemplified the mission of ANFP, and has positively impacted the members of the Louisiana chapter. Tami became certified in 1992 and is a Leadership Institute alumnus.

Distinguished Service Award (Corporate Partner)

The Distinguished Service Award (Corporate Partner) recipient exhibits strong support for ANFP, its members, and its mission through corporate partnership and service.
Congratulations, Hormel Health Labs!



Hormel Health Labs (HHL) has been a Corporate Partner member of ANFP for more than 20 years. During this time, the company has been actively engaged in supporting members through participation in ANFP national and regional events, as volunteer leaders, as a grant funder, and as active marketing partners in several programs.

The HHL team has dedicated themselves to supporting students in pursuit of the CDM, CFPP credential. In 2017, they established the Hormel Health Labs Student Grant program through the Nutrition & Foodservice Education Foundation (NFEF). To date, 12 students have been awarded this grant in pursuit of their credential, with another three to be supported this year. Overall, HHL has been a strong and steadfast partner for ANFP members and NFEF, and they exemplify the spirit of the Distinguished Service Award for a Corporate Partner.

Dining Distinction Award

The Dining Distinction Award honors a member that has contributed significantly to the health and well-being of individuals while providing an optimal dining experience, including the nutritional value of food, presentation, the environment in which food is served, and interactions with clients. **Congratulations, Jeffrey Carpenter, CDM, CFPP!**



Jeffrey Carpenter, CDM, CFPP currently serves in a dual role of Food Service Director and Patient Services Manager at PeaceHealth St. Joseph's Medical Center in Bellingham, WA. In his roles, he was able to elevate the patient services dining room program, focusing on food quality. Jeffrey works closely with the Clinical Nutrition Coordinator RD to offer foods that meet each therapeutic diet while maintaining their high standard of quality.

Jeffrey and his team have implemented creative ways to improve the dining experience. With COVID-19 restrictions changing daily, he and his team were able to redesign the flow of their cafés, allowing caregivers to visit and purchase food in a safe manor. They were able to hold appreciation events that the caregivers have grown to love. Jeffrey's dedication to high-quality customer service and food is demonstrated each day through his actions and pride in his work.

Horizon Award

*The Horizon Award recognizes a member that has been in the industry for five years or less and is new to management. They have demonstrated a desire for future growth within their facility and community. They display leadership in fostering equality, diversity, and inclusion in the workplace. **Congratulations, Myra Schroepfer, CDM, CFPP!***



Myra Schroepfer, CDM, CFPP has worked in the foodservice industry for 16 years at various long-term care facilities as well as in the restaurant industry. With a growing family she required hours more conducive to family life which led her to become Food and Beverage Manager for Ecumen in Mapleton, MN. The facility was eventually acquired by Monarch where she was asked to facilitate both dietary departments at different locations. She has since passed the CDM Credentialing Exam and is currently serving as the CDM, CFPP at Oaklawn Rehabilitation Center in Mankato, MN.

During the pandemic, Myra developed a facility garden with the help of a local master gardener. She renovated multiple outdoor spaces into green spaces where she led the growth of sustainable produce for her facility residents throughout the summer and into the late fall. This gave residents, who were unable to see family in person due to the virus, some normalcy as many of these residents had gardens while at home. Myra graduated with honors from South Central College, North Mankato, MN, with a degree in Restaurant Management.

Innovation Award

*The Innovation Award recipient has enhanced their nutrition and foodservice operations through technology, program development, nutrition, and operations. **Congratulations, Shannon DeLeur, CDM, CFPP!***



Shannon DeLeur, CDM, CFPP earned her CDM, CFPP credential in April 2019. While she has recently relocated to Arizona, at the time of the nomination, she was the Food Service Director at Skagit Regional Health (Thomas Cuisine) in Mount Vernon, WA. She oversaw two campuses. Shannon sought out innovative processes that were complemented with technology to make improvements to ease workflow and increase nutrition and satisfaction in all areas.

She added seasonal menus, snack programs, and fun themed café days to promote healthy options. Shannon is an integral part of the Super Chef Team which promotes producing the best quality and healthiest food through scratch cooking, fresh ingredients, and farm-to-table programs wherever possible. Shannon is a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America in New York.

Legacy Award

The Legacy Award embodies an ANFP member with proven dedication not only to the organization, but the mission and the credential as well.

Congratulations, Janice Hemel, CDM, CFPP!



Janice Hemel, CDM, CFPP is a 29-year member of ANFP. She began serving with the organization in 1998, and since then has held various positions at the district, chapter, and national levels, eventually serving as Chair in 2016. Janice has been a strong representative for ANFP in other ways over the years, including advocating for the credential at the state level. She demonstrates unwavering leadership and knowledge in any role she takes on.

Janice has been employed at Lane County Hospital in Dighton, KS for the entirety of her 32-year career. She is active in her church and community. Janice has been married to her husband for 21 years and has two grown children and one grandson.

Public Policy Award

The Public Policy Award exhibits strong support for efforts to change or strengthen public policy in the areas of nutrition, food, healthcare, or public health. **Congratulations, Elaine Deutchman, CDM, CFPP!**



Elaine Deutchman, CDM, CFPP, FSD has been a CDM, CFPP, and a member of ANFP for 38 years. She has worked in healthcare facilities for 27 of those years as CDM, CFPP and was a preceptor for the University of North Dakota Dietary Manager Correspondence Course. Currently, Elaine is working at Windom Area Schools at Windom, MN, as the Food Service Director for the last 11 years, directing the food service departments at three school sites and two satellite service cafeterias.

More recently, Elaine was faced with the challenge of providing meals to children in their community through public school foodservice departments until the end of the school year, as mandated by the governor of Minnesota and USDA. She worked with team members at the Minnesota Department of Education to ensure all students were served healthy meals throughout the summer and past school year.

Student of the Year Award

The Student of the Year Award recognizes a current student enrolled in an ANFP dietary managers program who exemplifies dedication, hard work, and commitment to earning the CDM, CFPP credential and pursuing a career in the foodservice industry.

Congratulations, Tara Ransom!



Tara Ransom, a native of West Virginia, has served in various foodservice roles over the years including her most recent role as lead server at Waterman Village in Florida. She is currently enrolled at the University of Florida and will sit for the CDM Credentialing Exam later this summer. After graduating high school, she chose not to attend college and went to work full time instead. While working in customer service and healthcare facilities has always provided work, Tara is looking forward to taking the next step in her career.

Tara's tireless work ethic, dedication, and desire to learn proves she is truly committed to advancing her career within the foodservice industry.

Diamond Award

The coveted Diamond Award recognizes one ANFP state chapter per year that exemplifies dedication to members through chapter initiatives and enthusiastic leadership.

Congratulations, Louisiana ANFP!



Association of Nutrition & Foodservice Professionals

This past year, Louisiana ANFP focused on providing unique and advanced-level education opportunities to its chapter members through the generous purchase of courses and sessions with ANFP approved continuing education (CE) providers. Additionally, the chapter partnered with vendors to provide online education opportunities on a monthly basis that included 5-minute instructional videos consisting of micro-learning techniques. The chapter offered these options to promote continued competency for CDM, CFPPs that best met their professional needs.