Jon Doemel, County Executive Doug Gieryn, Director/Health Officer

health@winnebagocountywi.gov Facebook: @WinnebagoHealth winnebagocountywi.gov/health

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Ashley Mukasa, Multimedia & Public Relations Coordinator 920-410-5961, <u>amukasa@winnebagocountywi.gov</u>

Solutions Recovery Staff Honored for Innovative, Life Saving Work

Expanded County Partnership Leads Individuals to Recovery

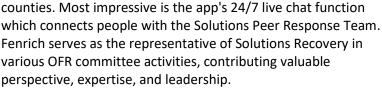
OSHKOSH, Wis. (December 15, 2023) – Trevor Fenrich, executive director of Solutions Recovery, Inc., and Megan Edwards, program director of Solutions Recovery, Inc., have been presented with the 2023 We Heart You Celebration of Excellence Award, given annually by the Winnebago County Overdose Fatality Review (OFR) Team.

"Megan and Trevor are incredibly deserving of this award," said University of Wisconsin Oshkosh Chief of Police and OFR Team Member Chris Tarmann. "They translated the discussions and ideas of the OFR team into meaningful activities that are having a positive impact on our community."

"Winnebago County is proud to have expanded our partnership with Solutions Recovery," said County Executive Jon Doemel. "Their work helps lead our people to recovery with the ultimate goal of saving lives."

Edwards was pivotal in creating the Solutions Peer Response Team (SPRT) Program which connects people in crisis to recovery coaches with lived experience. Through a rapid response to a substance use crisis, the program minimizes the risk of overdose by guiding individuals through available resources and facilitating access to care and treatment. Edwards led an expansion of the SPRT services by implementing the Sobriety Treatment Assisted Recovery (STAR) program in collaboration with the Winnebago County Jail. Through this initiative, incarcerated individuals receive support and guidance from SPRT's recovery coaches during their time in jail and after their release, encouraging a path to recovery.

"Megan's work in the jail is some of the most important work I've seen in my 21-year career," said Winnebago County Corrections Lieutenant Amber Rozek. "Megan and the Solutions Recovery team have become the face of change and hope in our facility. Her passion for the recovery community sets the tone for the programs."



Fenrich was a lead technician behind the <u>We Heart You mobile</u> <u>app</u> launched earlier this year. The app connects people to substance use resources in Winnebago, Calumet, and Outagamie







112 Otter Avenue Oshkosh, WI 54903-2808 Phone: 920-232-3000

211 N Commercial Street Neenah, WI 54956 Phone: 920-727-2894 "Trevor's dedication to combatting substance use and increasing recovery efforts have truly made a difference in our community," said Jennifer Skolaski, OFR program manager. "He is the kind of person to say yes to every opportunity that may save a life. His work is a source of inspiration."

"Trevor and Megan have gone beyond their professional roles and inspired amazing work within the OFR team and throughout the community," added Skolaski.

The We Heart You Celebration of Excellence Award recognizes a person or organization in Winnebago County that:

- Supports community initiatives that increase access to substance and mental health resources.
- Works to ensure equitable access for community members seeking help.
- Identifies gaps, assesses services, and creates, supports, and/or assists with programs that create a way for all community members to seek help equally.
- Demonstrates a strong ability to create meaningful relationships that advance the work of our local substance use or mental health services.
- Contributes experience, data, and meaningful input to help save lives.
- Goes above and beyond to leverage their position, organization, or relationships to accomplish exceptional work.

Solutions Recovery is one of 47 partners representing 36 agencies which work together on the OFR team to prevent overdose deaths. The team examines individual, organizational and systems level factors related to overdose deaths in Winnebago County. To learn more about the Winnebago County OFR Team, visit <u>winnebagocountywi.gov/health</u>. To learn more about Solutions Recovery, Inc., visit <u>solutionsrecovery.org</u>.

###

Photos (click on image or caption to download – Photo Credit: Mirrorless Productions):

From left: Megan Edwards, Program Director, Solutions Recovery, Inc.; Trevor Fenrich, Executive Director, Solutions Recovery, Inc.
From left: Jolie VerVoort, President of Residential Treatment, Apricity; Carrie Kubasta, Manager of Outpatient Therapy Services, ThedaCare Behavioral Health; Megan Edwards, Program Director and Peer Response Team Coordinator, Solutions Recovery, Inc.; Trevor Fenrich, Executive Director, Solutions Recovery, Inc.
From left: Jolie VerVoort, President of Residential Treatment, Apricity; Trevor Fenrich, Executive Director, Solutions Recovery, Inc.; Carrie Kubasta, Manager of Outpatient Therapy Services, ThedaCare Behavioral Health; Megan Edwards, Program Director and Peer Response Team Coordinator, Solutions Recovery, Inc.; Tim Styka, Retired Chief of Police, Menasha Police Department
From left: Megan Edwards, Program Director, Solutions Recovery, Inc.; Trevor Fenrich, Executive Director, Solutions Recovery, Inc.; Chris Tarmann, University of Wisconsin Oshkosh Chief of Police
From left: Trevor Fenrich, Executive Director, Solutions Recovery, Inc.; Chris Tarmann, University of Wisconsin Oshkosh Chief of Police