

2024 Copic Humanitarian Award-South Dakota:

Dr. Shannon Emry

Copic and the South Dakota State Medical Association are proud to announce that Dr. Shannon Emry is the 2024 recipient of the Copic Humanitarian Award. Dr. Emry is a Sioux Falls-based pediatrician who is recognized for her dedication to service and commitment to the needs of others.



With all the challenges and issues in healthcare, the positive stories of progress often get overshadowed. However, one person and one organization are being recognized for their efforts to improve healthcare among those experiencing homelessness around Sioux Falls.

Dr. Shannon Emry, a local pediatrician, co-founded Midwest Street Medicine in June 2023. The organization grew out of her vision to provide low-barrier care that addresses people's medical, behavioral, addiction, and social needs for individuals experiencing homelessness.

Instead of waiting for individuals experiencing homelessness to seek help, the team at Midwest Street Medicine brings care directly to the streets through multi-disciplinary volunteers (an approach referred to as "street medicine").

The goal is to build trusting relationships with people over time to provide necessary treatment and assistance to them.

As Medical Director, Dr. Emry facilitates and coordinates donations and volunteers, along with directly caring for patients herself, both on the street and at the Bishop Dudley Hospitality House, a shelter in Sioux Falls. She commits approximately 20 hours weekly to this project.

Dr. Emry will receive the Copic Humanitarian Award on May 31. Each year, the award recognizes a physician for volunteer medical services and contributions to their community. This award is presented jointly by the South Dakota State Medical Association (SDSMA) and Copic, SDSMA's endorsed medical liability insurance carrier.

To learn more about the Copic Humanitarian Award or to nominate a physician, visit our website: www.copic.com/about-copic/copic-humanitarian-award or email Laura Wadleigh at lwadleigh@copic.com.