

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE
NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 7, 2017

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**Kent County to Honor Employees for Public Service Recognition Week
Four New Awards to Celebrate *Excellence in Action***

GRAND RAPIDS – They protect us through law enforcement and preventing illness; provide us justice through the courts and beautify our landscape through amazing parks; manage our vital records, make sure we can vote and so much more. But often, public service goes unrecognized. The week of May 7-13, 2017 is designated by Congress as Public Service Recognition Week (PSRW). The Kent County Board of Commissioners is grateful for the opportunity to say thank you for all Kent County employees do on behalf of our residents.

PSRW has been celebrated since 1985 during the first full week in May. It is a time to honor those who serve our nation as federal, state, county, and local government employees. This year, the Board is thrilled to recognize our employees here in Kent County and plan to go one step further. We will celebrate some of their incredible accomplishments with four newly established Excellence in Action Awards:

- Excellence in Collaboration
- Excellence in Community Impact
- Excellence in Innovation
- The Chairman's Award

These awards are built around the Performance Measures every department sets annually and on goals met for 2016. These four awards will be presented on Thursday, May 11, 2017, at 8:30 a.m. at the Board of Commissioners' meeting. (Next year the County plans to add an award for **Excellence in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.**)

"I have consistently found that our public service employees find innovative solutions to complex issues through hard work, determination, and collaboration," said Board Chair Jim Saalfeld. "The dedication of our staff does not go unnoticed, and we want our residents to know that we are proud to serve with the 1600-plus employees of Kent County. "

Stay tuned to our social media pages for more about these awards and significant accomplishments: [facebook.com/KentCountyMI](https://www.facebook.com/KentCountyMI) and twitter.com/KentCountyMI.

MEDIA NOTE: You are invited to the Excellence in Action Award Ceremony which will be early on the agenda for the Board of Commissioners' Meeting on Thursday, May 11, 2017. The meeting starts at 8:30 a.m.; it is anticipated that the awards will be presented at 8:35 a.m.

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