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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **NCPDP Celebrates 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Improving Healthcare and Patient Safety with Open House and Building Naming to Honor Founders**

**SCOTTSDALE, AZ – September 27, 2017 –** [NCPDP](#), the problem solving forum for healthcare and ANSI accredited standards development organization, celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary last night with an Open House and Building Naming Ceremony to Honor its three founders, Benjamin D. Ward, Charles D. Pulido, R.Ph., and Edward D. Spearbeck.

The event closed out a year-long celebration of the work of NCPDP members who represent virtually every stakeholder group in the pharmacy/healthcare industry. NCPDP President, Lee Ann Stember, explained, “Through NCPDP standards and industry guidance, we touch the lives of all patients, making an indelible impact at the critical juncture between diagnosis and treatment. Our solutions support healthcare providers, putting important information at their fingertips so they can make better informed decisions with us about our care. Our standards simplify and streamline administrative transactions and help avert fraud and abuse. Our industry guidance extends beyond the realm of standards to support emergency preparedness efforts and make medication dosing safer, and so much more.”

The event was attended by NCPDP’s Board of Trustees, its executive management team, staff and their families, NCPDP members, vendors, NCPDP Foundation Board members, and other healthcare industry leaders, innovators and entrepreneurs.

### **Honoring NCPDP Founders**

In an emotional ceremony, NCPDP’s Scottsdale headquarters was proclaimed the “Founders Building” to commemorate the vision and legacy of NCPDP Founders, Benjamin D. Ward, Charles D. Pulido, R.Ph., and Edward D. Spearbeck. “Ben, Charlie and Ed started something truly special. It began with standardizing a universal claim form so that pharmacists would spend less time on paperwork and more time on patient care. And today, that passion and focus on the patient carries forward through our work and our impact,” explained Stember.

About 20 years ago when there was very little development in the area, Ward, Pulido and Spearbeck championed Stember’s move to purchase the land and building that are today NCPDP’s headquarters. Since then, the investment has nearly doubled in value, supporting NCPDP’s continued growth.

In the closing remarks, Phillip D. Scott, NCPDP’s Senior Vice President, Business Development, explained, “And now the greatest honor we can give Charlie, Ben and Ed is to focus on the future and continuing their legacy for the next 40 plus years of service to improve every corner of our industry through our unyielding commitment to patient care.”

In addition, [The Magellan Cares Foundation, Inc.](#), honored the legacy of NCPDP’s founders with a \$5,000 donation to the [NCPDP Foundation](#). The purpose of the NCPDP Foundation is to fund student pharmacist scholarships and research projects that drive better quality healthcare through the use of standards-based health information technology. The \$5,000 donation will be matched dollar for dollar with matching funds approved by the Board of Trustees of NCPDP.

### **Open House Activities**

During the open house, Charlie Pulido gave tours of the building, NCPDP's collection of pharmacy lithographs and artifacts that he, John Klimek, R.Ph, NCPDP's Senior VP, Standards and Information Technology, and Bruce Semingson, R.Ph., donated, as well artifacts on loan from the [History of Pharmacy Museum at the University of Arizona College of Pharmacy](#). The collection curated by the History of Pharmacy Museum includes a range of fascinating relics from snake oils and miracle cures sold at 19<sup>th</sup> century travelling medicine shows to homeopathic remedies and products from pharmaceutical manufacturers known today.

To download photos from the Open House and Building Naming event, visit: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/ncdpd/>.

### **About NCPDP**

Founded in 1977, NCPDP is a not-for-profit, ANSI-accredited, Standards Development Organization with approximately 1,500 members representing virtually every sector of the pharmacy services industry. Our diverse membership provides leadership and healthcare business solutions through education and standards, created using the consensus building process. NCPDP has been named in federal legislation, including HIPAA, MMA, and HITECH. NCPDP members have created standards such as the Telecommunication Standard and Batch Standard, the SCRIPT Standard for ePrescribing, the Manufacturers Rebate Standard and more to improve communication within the pharmacy industry. Our data products include dataQ<sup>®</sup>, a robust database of information on more than 80,000 pharmacies, resQ<sup>™</sup>, an industry pharmacy credentialing resource, and HCidea<sup>®</sup>, an innovative prescriber database that provides continually updated information on more than 2.5 million prescribers. NCPDP's RxReconn<sup>®</sup> is a legislative tracking product for real-time monitoring of pharmacy-related state and national legislative and regulatory activity. For more information about NCPDP Standards, Data Services, Products, Educational Programs and Work Group meetings, go online at <http://www.ncdpd.org> or call 480.477.1000.

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