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## **Dierdre “Dede” Kennedy-Simington receives NAHU Distinguished Service Award**

**Washington, D.C. — Dede Kennedy-Simington, a member of the Los Angeles Association of Health Underwriters chapter, recently received the Distinguished Service Award at the National Association of Health Underwriters’ (NAHU) 86th Annual Convention and Exhibition in Albuquerque, NM.**

Dede Kennedy-Simington was recognized with the Distinguished Service Award, which honors NAHU members who have made significant contributions to volunteer service at the local, state and national level over an extended period of time. Her efforts have greatly improved the health insurance industry through an extraordinary commitment of time, talents and professional experience.

“The leadership of NAHU members has a far-reaching impact on providing for the healthcare needs of individuals, families and business in their communities. We are grateful for Dede Kennedy-Simington’s dedication to association volunteer service and recognize her for those efforts with this well-deserved award,” said NAHU CEO Janet Trautwein.

Dede has lobbied on healthcare reform in Washington and Sacramento for over 18 years and served two terms as President of the Los Angeles Association of Health Underwriters (LAAHU); in 2015 Dede was honored as Member of the Year by the California Association of Health Underwriters, and in 2010 the Los Angeles Chapter presented Dede with their prestigious Insurance Person of the Year award. Her background includes serving with private sector and government-run insurance programs, as Director of Contract Management for a hospital, and holding senior management positions with a self-funded benefit plan administrator, a health insurance carrier as well as a nationally-acclaimed employee benefits consulting firm and is currently a part of Genesis Financial & Insurance Services. Dede is a loving wife and attentive mother to two children.

“Dede Kennedy-Simington exemplifies the dedication to providing the best opportunities for our members through service to the association,” said Dawn McFarland, President of Los Angeles Chapter. “Dede’s dedication to the improvement of the ACA, and education for businesses and consumers have set a standard of excellence in the health insurance industry that we are proud to honor.”

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*The National Association of Health Underwriters represents 100,000 professional health insurance agents and brokers who provide insurance for millions of Americans. Members of the Los Angeles Association of Health Underwriters provide reliable insurance advice, act as the consumer’s advocate when dealing with carriers and provide a number of essential services relating to the individual and group insurance coverage, advocacy and obligations post-enrollment. Members also act as a trusted and effective marketing and distribution channel for health insurance information for all consumers and potential consumers of health care insurance coverage. To find a local agent for help, visit [laahu.org](http://laahu.org).*

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