

2011 South Dakota Perinatal Association Pioneer Award Recipient



Dr. David Munson is the recipient of the 2011 Pioneer Award. The award is given each year at the annual conference to an individual who had a significant impact on the care of mothers and infants.

Dr. Munson joined Central Plains Clinic in Sioux Falls in 1973 after completing a pediatric residency at the University of Minnesota. He was instrumental in establishing the initial NICU at Sioux Valley Hospital and returned to the University of Minnesota to complete a fellowship in neonatology in 1983. He joined the faculty of the University of South Dakota School of Medicine in 1983 and continues to be actively involved in teaching both residents and medical students as a professor in the Department of Pediatrics.

As medical director of the Boekelheide NICU at Sanford Children's and division head of the neonatal section of the USD Department of Pediatrics for 23 years, Dr. Munson has been instrumental in the development of clinical care and education in the state's largest NICU. He has also been a hospital leader, serving as a member of numerous committees, as a member of

the board of directors and as president of the medical staff. In 2008 Dr. Munson received Sanford's Doctor of the Year award and is currently listed in America's Best Doctors.

Dr. Munson has been an active member in perinatal organizations at the state regional, and national level, serving as a board member of the South Dakota Perinatal Association, the Great Plains Organization for Perinatal Care (GPO), and the National Perinatal Association, as well as president of the SDPA and GPO. As President of the state chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, he continues to be involved in the Academy's efforts in pediatric health care on a regional and national level.

From founding member of the SDPA through his leadership and involvement in teaching, and clinical care today, Dr. Munson's medical career truly embodies the spirit of the SDPA Pioneer Award.