The Emily Program

Personalized treatment for eating disorders.

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U of M Larry Wilson Award to The Emily Program's Founder

(Minneapolis, Minn.) The University of Minnesota's College of Education and Human Development has named Dr. Dirk A. Miller winner of the 2011 Larry Wilson Award. Miller is Founder and Executive Director of The Emily Program, which provides eating disorder treatment to thousands of clients in Minnesota and Washington State.

The Larry Wilson Award recognizes a U of M alumni who demonstrates excellence in educational achievement outside the traditional school environment. Last November, Miller also received CEHD's new Distinguished Alumni Award. The Larry Wilson Award will be presented on **Friday, April 22 at 4:00 p.m. at the McNamara Alumni Center** on the University's east bank campus in Minneapolis.

Miller earned a Masters in Public Health and PhD in Counseling Psychology from the College of Education and Human Development. In 1985, he developed and began operating Indiana's first comprehensive, hospital-based eating disorder treatment program. In 1993, he opened The Emily Program as a comprehensive outpatient eating disorder treatment program, based in Saint Paul, MN.

The Emily Program has since grown into one of the largest eating disorder treatment agencies in the country; its clients receive personalized care from a staff of more than 210 at offices in Saint Paul, Saint Louis Park, Burnsville, Stillwater, and Duluth in Minnesota, as well as Seattle, Washington. It also operates Anna Westin House, Minnesota's first residential eating disorders treatment program.

Dr. Miller says, "This honor reflects on the University as much as it does on any of us receiving it. I had fabulous mentors during my time at the U, and many of them still influence me and my work today. I'm honored by the award, and plan to accept it on behalf of all CEHD grads and my Emily Program colleagues who work so hard to foster recovery and hope in people struggling with eating disorders."

Miller's colleague Dr. Kate Jalma was among those nominating him. She says, "With unparalleled dedication, Dirk has created and delivered cutting edge treatment, advocated and educated for the rights of people struggling with eating disorders on local, national, and global levels. His creativity and commitment is revolutionizing the standard for advocacy and treatment in mental health."

Larry Wilson is a CEHD graduate who founded the training and research organization Wilson Learning Corporation, and Pecos River Learning Center, a leadership development organization. He is also co-author of the best-selling The One-Minute Sales Person.

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