

2007 STEPS COMMUNITY HEROES AWARDS PROGRAM
HELD ON JUNE 6, 2007 IN SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

ACCEPTANCE SPEECH ON BEHALF OF FLORENCE "FLOSSIE" WAGER
TRANSCRIPT OF VIDEO

KRISTINE PERRY: Well I'm getting this award, but I know Flossie was kicking and screaming to be here today. But her doctor said, "No you're not coming." So on behalf of Flossie, I would really like to give my deepest thanks for this award. If she were here today, she would have said something to the effect of that we made such great strides and momentum in the last three and a half years. We could not have done it without the incredible work, energy, and passion from all of our community partners. But as she would say, "We can't stop now. We're just getting started. We're just getting our foothold."

One of Flossie's favorite quotes that she makes to our leadership team - pretty much every month - is that (it goes something like this) "If you want to get something done it'll take endless pressure, endlessly applied." Flossie would also say that in order to sustain our efforts and create long lasting change, we must be vigilant, committed, and willing to be...willing to move our community knowing that it might take a long time and a long road ahead.

Along the way we need to continue to renew ourselves, celebrate our successes, learn from our challenges and setbacks, and always look for opportunities to advocate and educate and to nurture our community and partners, and always look for creating new partnerships. And most importantly that we must be the leaders that helped pave the way to a new healthier more livable future. Thank you.

END OF SPEECH