

**For Immediate Release**

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**Fort Worth, Texas—September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2013**—Diana Thompson, LMP, was presented the Massage Therapy Foundation Distinguished Service Award at the Massage Therapy Foundation Donor Reception during the 2013 American Massage Therapy Association (AMTA) convention held in Fort Worth, Texas.

Thompson, in the massage therapy field, was honored for her efforts in embracing the power of massage and the mission of the Massage Therapy Foundation to promote education and research while serving others.

In the early 1990's, Thompson self-published her first book, *Hands Heal: Communication, Documentation and Insurance Billing for Manual Therapists*, which has become an industry standard for charting client intake and progress. The fourth edition was released in July, 2011. With over 30 years of experience, she has offered skilled massage therapy for relief of pain, injuries, medical conditions, and provides comfort and ease of movement for older adults, pregnant women, athletes, and anyone with complications of stress. Thompson has used a technique called manual lymphatic drainage (MLD), and has specialized in addressing acute and chronic inflammatory conditions. Pre- and post-surgical needs, detoxification and immune issues, and trauma can be positively affected using MLD in combination with other styles of massage therapy.

Thompson also served as the MTF's President for two terms and had served as a volunteer for the MTF up until June 2013. During her ten years as an MTF volunteer she served on nearly every foundation committee. During her tenure, Thompson co-chaired both the 2010 and 2013 International Massage Therapy Research Conferences (IMTRC).

"I am deeply honored to receive the award. My parents modeled service as an essential part of being human. Therefore, my sights were set on what was needed, not what was possible. That's how the seemingly impossible gets done. Every challenge is an opportunity for self-discovery. The outcome is its own reward," stated Thompson.

Ruth Werner, President of the Massage Therapy Foundation, stated, ““Diana has been my teacher and mentor in my current position, and I’ve learned more than I can share from her guidance and friendship. Her ability to lead has made amazing things happen, such as the collaborative and effective relationship we now have with the AMTA. I believe her work in changing the role of massage therapy in Washington State has the potential to change the role of massage therapy for the entire country. Congratulations and thank you, Diana.”

**About the Massage Therapy Foundation**

The Massage Therapy Foundation is a 501(c) 3 public charity, with a mission to advance the knowledge and practice of massage by supporting scientific research, education, and community service. Learn more at [www.massagetherapyfoundation.org](http://www.massagetherapyfoundation.org).

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