

## Recognizing Outstanding Service Excellence



Dr. Lisa Dodson  
Area Health Education Center

### **Scott Ekblad from the Area Health Education Center submitted the following nomination...**

Dr. Lisa Dodson is the director of the OHSU Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) program. When the difficult decision was made within OHSU to discontinue support from the School of Nursing to the rural health clinic in Elgin, OR, Dr. Dodson and several others came together to help the residents of Elgin retain health care services in their community. When Dr. Dodson learned that OHSU lost the nurse practitioner who provided clinical services there, she offered to keep the doors open by commuting to Elgin two days a week to see patients. She has been doing that since January, regardless of the weather or road conditions. If you've ever crossed the Blue Mountains in the dead of winter, you understand that it can take patience, courage and fortitude.

All the while Dr. Dodson continues her other responsibilities overseeing the work of the AHEC office, teaching students, serving on various boards and advisory committees and creating new programs to bring health care to all parts of the state. Dr. Dodson continues to meet every day with a smile on her face, compassion in her heart and a level of energy that knows no equal. Her passion and commitment are truly inspiring to her staff, her colleagues and anyone that knows her. I've never once heard Dr. Dodson complain about this extraordinary effort; although I know the toll it takes on her and her family.

The people of Elgin see Dr. Lisa Dodson as the embodiment of OHSU's mission to serve the entire state. If it weren't for her, hundreds of people in eastern Oregon would have no health care at all. I can think of no other OHSU employee more worth of the Golden ROSE Award for Service



# Award Recipient - July 2008