**AANP North Dakota State Excellence Awards**

**AANP North Dakota State Advocacy Award**

**Gwen LR Witzel, APRN, FNP, FAANP**

2017 North Dakota Nurse Practitioner State Excellence Award Winner

* Pillar of a rural community, she has provided excellent, compassionate care to patients for over 20 years
* A sought-after preceptor, she is devoted to NP students and role development and has dedicated her professional life to the promotion and expansion of our profession

**AANP North Dakota State Award for Excellence, Nurse Practitioner**

**Cheryl Rising, MSN, APRN, FNP, FAANP**

2017 North Dakota Nurse Practitioner Advocate Award Winner

* Recent AANP state representative, she continues to serve as legislative liaison for state NP organization, monitoring bills and testifying on behalf of NPs
* Helped ND achieve FPA in 2011—she serves as a mentor, health policy and NP advocacy expert to practicing NPs and students