



Panhandle Health District

Healthy People in Healthy Communities

Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Panhandle Health District

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 26, 2016

Contact: Melanie Collett
(208) 415-5108

Long-time Panhandle Health District Employee, Jerry Cobb, Inducted into Idaho Hall of Fame



(Jerry Cobb and his wife, MaryLou Cobb, were presented with his award at the Shoshone Medical Center.)

KELLOGG, ID – Panhandle Health District (PHD) is proud to announce that Jerry Cobb, the long-time Institutional Controls Program Coordinator at PHD, has been inducted into the Idaho Hall of Fame. Idaho's Hall of Fame honors Idahoans who have made a positive impact on their communities, state, and the future of Idaho. He is the third Shoshone County resident to be inducted.

“We are very proud that Jerry has achieved this special recognition after being nominated by his industry peers in Shoshone County,” said Lora Whalen, PHD Director. “The State of Idaho is extremely lucky to have him - as his dedication to environmental health is an inspiration to all.”

After graduating from the University of Idaho in 1971, Jerry Cobb returned to his hometown of Kellogg and spent 41 years working as an Environmental Health Specialist for the Panhandle Health District. Cobb established outreach and education efforts to prevent heavy metal exposure in the Silver Valley. His campaigns allowed families and visitors to protect themselves from lead-contaminated soils and brought a regional awareness to the importance of avoiding lead exposure. Cobb created a program that would manage the fragile barriers of lead contamination, known as the Institutional Controls Program (ICP), which is still thriving after Cobb’s retirement in 2014.

“Jerry has been the guiding force in working to decrease blood lead levels in the Silver Valley,” said Andy Helkey, who now manages ICP. “His contributions are invaluable and will positively impact residents of Shoshone County and Idaho for generations to come.”

To learn more about the Panhandle Health District Institutional Control Program, visit: <http://panhandlehealthdistrict.org/environmental-health/icp>.

To learn more about the Idaho Hall of Fame, visit: <http://www.idahoshalloffame.org/>.

###