

# RUIDOSO NEWS



## The Community Page

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### Widell wins prestigious award

Coleen Widell, president of the Board of Directors of the New Mexico Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NMCADV), was presented a prestigious award in Albuquerque Friday.

The Governor's Award for Out-standing New Mexico Women, an initiative of the New Mexico Commission on the Status of Women, is presented annually to 20 recipients who have made exceptional contributions to the state through exemplary leadership and advocacy. Speakers at the May 7 Hotel Albuquerque dinner included Gov. Richardson and Lt. Gov. Diane Denish.

Widell serves as the Executive Director of the Ruidoso-based nonprofit organization HEAL (Help End Abuse For Life) which operates the Nest domestic violence shelter in Ruidoso Downs and whose mission is to end domestic violence in Lincoln County. HEAL is a member NMCADV, for which Widell serves as board president.

NMCADV provides leadership at the statewide level as a voice for victims and survivors of domestic violence and the programs that serve them, and as an advocate for social and policy change.

NMCADV Executive Director Pam Wiseman stated, "This award underscores what a privilege it is to have Coleen serving as president of the NMCADV Board. The governor and the Commission on the Status of Women could not have chosen a more deserving candidate to honor, nor a more pressing issue to highlight than the problem of domestic violence in our state and the contributions of individuals like Coleen who have committed their careers to battling it.