



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **STEFANIE HERDER OF GRAND HAVEN/SPRING LAKE RECEIVES THE LAKESHORE ATHENA 2017 YOUNG PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD**

**GRAND HAVEN, MI** – Stefanie Herder with the Grand Haven Area Convention and Visitors Bureau was honored at the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Lakeshore ATHENA Award luncheon as the 2017 recipient of the ATHENA Young Professional Leadership Award. The announcement was made today at the Lakeshore ATHENA Award luncheon celebration at Trillium Events, Spring Lake | Ferrysburg.

An ATHENA Young Professional Recipient is an emerging leader who demonstrates excellence, creativity and initiative in their profession and who serves as a role model for young women personally and professionally providing valuable service to improve the quality of life for others in the community.

Stefanie has been working in the hospitality & tourism industry for 18 years, tackling every job from scooping ice cream to hotel management. For the past six years she has invested her time and talents at the Grand Haven Area Convention and Visitors Bureau. Her social media campaigns have spotlighted Grand Haven with national and international recognition and in 2017, Grand Haven earned the title of “America’s Happiest Seaside Town” by Coastal Living. In addition to promoting Grand Haven, Stefanie divides her time between numerous organizations. She serves as a board member for the Grand Haven Young Professionals and has been a “Big” with Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Lakeshore since 2007.

The Lakeshore ATHENA Award Program is a collaboration of The Chamber of Commerce Grand Haven, Spring Lake, Ferrysburg, the Michigan West Coast Chamber of Commerce and the Muskegon Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce. The recipient is chosen by a selection committee composed of representatives from the participating Chambers and community

business leaders. Five Young ATHENA nominee finalists from the three lakeshore communities were recognized at the luncheon which was attended by over 370 regional community and business leaders.