May 16-19, 2017 - Bellevue, WA. Fall National. Each year, NAPFA recognizes members who have contributed significantly to NAPFA as an organization, and to the financial planning profession as a whole. This year, two NAPFA members were recognized for their special contributions, both within and outside the association.

At the 2017 Spring Conference, awards were presented to Bernie Kiely and Danielle Seurkamp not only for their commitment to NAPFA and the profession, but also for exhibiting the ideals of mentoring, leadership and encouragement.

Bernie Kiely received the Robert J. Underwood Distinguished Service Award in recognition of an outstanding record of service to NAPFA, and the advancement of the practice of Fee-Only financial planning.

Bernie is a NAPFA-Registered Financial Advisor with Kiely Capital Management in Morristown, New Jersey. He has been an effective, vocal and staunch advocate of the ideals of Fee-Only financial planning, and has contributed significantly and consistently to the advancement of the profession through service to the Association and his peers. He has championed the Fee-only model in both the advisory community and the general public.

Over the years, Bernie has mentored many NAPFA members, and has been hailed as a great teacher, always willing to listen and offer advice, and as "the best example of what it means to give back to NAPFA". It is because of Bernie that many advisors, just starting their careers, have been given the opportunity to engage with their Fee-only colleagues through NAPFA's programs.

The Robert J. Underwood Distinguished Service Award is presented for outstanding service to the National Association of Personal Financial Advisors (NAPFA) or the advancement of the practice of Fee-Only financial planning by an individual association or professional staff member. This award has been presented for exceptional, long-term service to NAPFA, primarily through committee service or other similar contributions. "Unsung hero" or "above and beyond the call of duty" are two ways to describe past recipients.

The Awards Committee considers:

- Contributions that significantly and consistently impact NAPFA and/or the advancement of the profession through service to the Association.
- Demonstrated ability and willingness to serve as a teacher or formal/ informal mentor to other professionals.
- Demonstrated leadership commitment and involvement in NAPFA.

These contributions may be a single act or a cumulative performance. Significance will be measured by a positive impact on practitioners, consumers, or the profession as a whole. The effort exerted by the candidate will also be considered.

Bernie was also the joint-recipient of a NAPFA Special Membership Award in 2000.