

2018 Woman of Distinction: **Dr. Caroline Baerg**

Dr. Caroline Baerg was born in the central part of Nigeria to a father who was in education and a mother who was a nurse assistant. After completing high school at the Gindiri Girls High School, Dr. Baerg graduated from the University of Jos Medical School in Nigeria. She continued her education at the University of Iowa, where she completed a three-year Family Practice medical residency.

She has been a family medicine provider with the Mankato Clinic since 1995. She is board certified in family medicine and is a division chair in the Family Medicine Department. Dr. Baerg has made it her mission to speak to immigrants on family health care issues and to give encouragement and hope. She is inspired by guiding people to better understand their healthcare issues and how to manage them.

Dr. Baerg is regarded highly among those who know her. Susan Olson remarked “Caroline is quick to remind all who she encounters that no matter what the circumstances, there is always something to be thankful for.” Dr. Baerg has said that because God has given her so much, she has a need to give.

She has been married to Jerry Baerg for 31 years and they are parents to Timothy, age 25 and Joshua, age 18.