HealthReach Announces New Board Member, Chair for 2021

WATERVILLE—Connie Coggins, President and CEO of HealthReach Community Health Centers, is pleased to announce that the organization’s Governing Board of Directors will have a new member and Board Chair. In 2021, Brenda Stevens will serve as HealthReach’s Board Chair, and Ann Nicholson will join the organization’s board.

Ann Nicholson is a resident of Bethel and former special education teacher, having worked with students with disabilities from pre-kindergarten to adulthood. After losing her vision in 1996, Ann completed a rehabilitation program at Pittsburgh Vision Services to become a rehabilitation teacher, helping students develop independent living skills. In addition, she was a public speaker at schools and for The United Way, promoting education about blindness. Ann moved to Maine in 2012 with her husband and currently enjoys opportunities to speak to groups about coping with life changes, blindness and her use of guide dogs.

Brenda Stevens is a Maine native who retired from the field of education, where she worked as a teacher, principal and superintendent in western Maine for over 40 years. She received undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Maine and has served on HealthReach’s Governing Board for two years.

Brenda assumes the role of Board Chair as John Opperman’s term on the board is complete. In addition, Tom Reeves is retiring after two years of service on the Board of Directors.

In 2021, Brenda Stevens is serving as Chair of the Governing Board of Directors, Bruce Harrington as Vice Chair and Terry Brann as Secretary/Treasurer.

Board members and staff expressed their appreciation to outgoing members John Opperman and Tom Reeves at the last board meeting in 2021.

A private non-profit with a 46-year history, HealthReach is funded by patient fees, grants and by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling $4,815,606 with 82.2 percent financed with non-governmental sources. The contents are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor are an endorsement by, the HRSA, HHS or the U.S. Government.

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