



## National Health Council

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### National Health Council Announces New Board Members and Officers

WASHINGTON, DC (Dec. 21, 2011) – The National Health Council (NHC) has selected its officers and new Board members for 2012. The new officers are as follows:

**Chairperson**

Larry Hausner, Chief Executive Officer  
American Diabetes Association  
Alexandria, Virginia

**Treasurer**

Eric Racine, Vice President of Advocacy  
Sanofi  
Bridgewater, New York

**Chairperson-elect**

LaVarne A. Burton  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
American Kidney Fund  
Rockville, Maryland

**Secretary**

Tom Wallace  
Director, Global Advocacy & Professional  
Relations  
Eli Lilly and Company  
Washington, DC

**Vice Chairperson**

Nancy Brown, Chief Executive Officer  
American Heart Association  
Dallas, Texas

The membership of the NHC also elected the following individuals to its Board of Directors:

**Tracy Smith Hart**

Chief Executive Officer  
Osteogenesis Imperfecta Foundation  
Gaithersburg, Maryland

**John Walsh**

President, CEO, and Co-Founder  
Alpha-1 Foundation  
Miami, Florida

**Jennifer Howse**

President  
March of Dimes Foundation  
White Plains, New York

**John Castellani**

President and Chief Executive Officer  
PhRMA  
Washington, DC

**Carolyn Levering**

President and Chief Executive Officer  
National Marfan Foundation  
Port Washington, New York

**Paul Pomerantz**

Worldwide Executive Director  
Drug Information Association  
Horsham, Pennsylvania

**Amy Comstock Rick**

Chief Executive Officer  
Parkinson's Action Network  
Washington, DC

(more)

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In the coming year, the priority issues for NHC will include

- Working with various federal agencies to define essential health benefits, required under the health care reform law, in a way to balance effective coverage with appropriate cost
- Encouraging the development of new treatments and diagnostic tools for people with chronic conditions through passage of HR 3497, the MODDERN Cures Act
- Encouraging sustained funding for federal health programs and health research
- Supporting comparative effectiveness research and the work of the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI)

*The National Health Council (NHC) is the only organization of its kind that brings together all segments of the health community to provide a united voice for the more than 133 million people with chronic diseases and disabilities and their family caregivers.*

*Made up of more than 100 national health-related organizations and businesses, the NHC's core membership includes approximately 50 of the nation's leading patient advocacy groups, which control its governance. Other members include professional and membership associations, nonprofit organizations with an interest in health, and major pharmaceutical, medical device, health insurance, and biotechnology companies. To learn more, visit the NHC website at [www.nationalhealthcouncil.org](http://www.nationalhealthcouncil.org).*

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