



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

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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.

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