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CHAIR OF WORKFORCE COMMISSION TO RECEIVE THE PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD



NEW HAMPSHIRE – APRIL 29, 2015 – On May 12, Laurie Harding, MS, RN, Chair of the New Hampshire Commission on Primary Care Workforce Issues, will receive The Public Service Award from Bi-State Primary Care Association. This annual award “honors individuals whose position allows them to make extraordinary contributions in the area of public health and primary care access.” Harding will receive the award during the Awards Ceremony Luncheon at the 2015 Primary Care Conference in Fairlee, Vermont.

Harding, who recently finished serving five terms in the New Hampshire legislature, is a passionate, dedicated, and energetic individual who has, over the last several years, become interested in and committed to improving access to primary care for the rural and underserved populations of New Hampshire. In 2013, Harding agreed to chair the Commission on Primary Care Workforce Issues as a NH House Representative from Grafton District 13, and served as vice chair of the Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs Committee. She has promoted the critical role of primary care clinicians in the implementation of New Hampshire Health Protection Program, facilitated conversations to expand family medicine residency opportunities, and seeks innovative ways to encourage graduates to practice in New Hampshire. She was instrumental in a collaborative effort that brought \$800,000 in non-state funds to the State Loan Repayment Program, representing the most substantial investment in the program in the past 20 years. Harding remains chair of the Commission as a public member and has included on the agenda a discussion of training opportunities to encourage the integration of primary medical, behavioral health, and oral health in primary care settings.

Established in 1986, Bi-State Primary Care Association is a nonpartisan, nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Bi-State’s annual Primary Care Conference features experts in health care policy and practice at the federal, state, and local level and attracts a large audience of primary care administrators, clinicians, and policymakers. For more information, please visit www.bistatepca.org.

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