NEW HAMPSHIRE – APRIL 29, 2015 – On May 12, Joanne Pomeranz, APRN-BC, a board certified nurse practitioner at Harbor Care Health and Wellness Center, will receive The Outstanding Clinician Award from Bi-State Primary Care Association. This annual award “honors primary care clinicians from Vermont and New Hampshire whose exemplary skills and service have made a significant impact on the health of underserved patients and the community in which they serve.” Pomeranz will receive the award during the Awards Ceremony Luncheon at the 2015 Primary Care Conference in Fairlee, Vermont.

Pomeranz has been a nurse practitioner since 2001, and has been practicing at the Harbor Care Health and Wellness Center, A Program of Harbor Homes, for five years. She has been a provider at the Healthcare for the Homeless Clinic since it opened and has been able to establish incredible therapeutic relationships with homeless patients. Individuals who are homeless may initially be withdrawn, mistrustful, and wary of any type of public service or authority figures. They are frequently afraid to express their needs or concerns and cautious about revealing too much information. Pomeranz, through her gentleness and sincerity, quickly established a rapport that encouraged the patients to not only trust her, but enabled them to become empowered to view themselves as vital members and equal participants of the treatment team. Many of Pomeranz’s patients, who were previously very resistant to treatment suggestions, have made life-altering changes in their behavior, enabling them to live healthier lives. Pomeranz has been at the forefront of Harbor Homes’ efforts toward integration of primary care and behavioral health care.

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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