



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NEW YORK CITY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD ELECTS KATHLEEN KEARNS AS NEW CHAIRPERSON

The New York City Workforce Investment Board (WIB) today announced the election of Kathleen Kearns, Senior Vice President of Continuum Health Partners, as the new Chairperson of the Board. The WIB is a volunteer Board appointed by the Mayor to oversee the City's investments in its workforce. As Chairperson Ms. Kearns will lead the WIB to ensure that New York City businesses have the skilled workforce they need to grow and prosper.

"During this critical time for our City's economy, we are fortunate to have a leader of Kathy's caliber and commitment step into this important role," said Philip Weinberg, President of the Workforce Investment Board. During the Board's Quarterly meeting on March 10, 2010, Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg joined Board members in welcoming Ms. Kearns as the new Chair.

"I am honored to serve as Chair of the WIB and thank Mayor Bloomberg, members of the Board and the staff for their warm support," said Ms. Kearns. "The current economic climate presents us with many challenges, but also offers great opportunities for us to continue to be innovative in our approaches to workforce development. Together with our many talented colleagues in government, business and labor, I am confident that we will have many new successes to share on behalf of New Yorkers."

The New York City Workforce Investment Board (WIB) administers the federal Workforce Investment Act funds in New York City and oversees the public workforce system run by the Department of Small Business Services, the Department of Youth and Community Development and other City agencies. The WIB is made up of over 40 volunteer members, appointed by the Mayor, representing local businesses, educational institutions, labor unions, community-based organizations, and other government agencies.

Ms. Kearns currently serves as Senior Vice President of Development and External Affairs for Continuum Health Partners, a nonprofit hospital system in New York City that comprises five historically distinguished hospitals: Beth Israel Medical Center, Roosevelt Hospital, St. Luke's Hospital, Long Island College Hospital, and The New York Eye and Ear Infirmary. Together, they offer a full range of primary care and specialty treatments using the most advanced approaches available. Ms. Kearns serves as the chief development, public information, and chief marketing officer for the system and its individual components and is responsible for fundraising, media relations, communications, and marketing initiatives.

Ms. Kearns has been an active member of the WIB since 2004, serving as a member of the WIB's Executive Committee and as Chairperson of the Strategic Planning Committee. Her appointment took effect on March 10, 2010. Ms. Kearns replaces Stuart M. Saft, head of the Global Real Estate Group at Dewey & LeBoeuf, who stepped down after serving as Chair of the Board since 2000.

Contact: Lea Kilraine, NYC WIB, (212) 513-6451

Contact: Elizabeth Dowling, Continuum Health Partners, (212) 523-4047