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Honorees Announced for the 2007 Lifeline Awards

DETROIT, April 2007 – Nancy M. Schlichting, President and CEO of Henry Ford Health System and the late Dr. Rachel Boone Keith, pioneering physician, philanthropist and community leader, will be commemorated by the Wayne State University College of Nursing on Wednesday, Sept. 26, at the Seventh Annual LifeLine Awards. The awards are presented annually in recognition of outstanding contributions to health care. Also being honored as the College of Nursing Alumni Association 2007 Alumna of the Year is Dorothy (Dottie) Deremo, President and CEO of Hospice of Michigan.

Honoree Profiles

Nancy M. Schlichting is President and Chief Executive Officer of Henry Ford Health System (HFHS), a $3 billion health system with 17,000 employees. Schlichting presides over the health system, which includes five owned hospitals, an 800-physician group practice, a 530,000 member health maintenance organization, 24 ambulatory centers, home health care and other health-related entities located throughout southeastern Michigan. A hallmark of Schlichting's career is working with community, legislative and business leaders to improve health services while providing affordable care. She serves on numerous community, professional, and corporate boards that reflect both her professional and personal interests. She is a member of the Catholic Medical Mission Board, the Walgreen Company Board, The Kresge Foundation Board, the Michigan Health and Hospital Association Board (Treasurer), the Detroit Regional Chamber Board, the Detroit Economic Club and the Greater Detroit Area Health Council Board, as well as co-chair of its Save Lives Save Dollars initiative.

Dr. Rachel Boone Keith, a true role model for women and people of color, was born in Liberia and entered the medical profession in the early 1950s after earning the highest score ever on a national board exam. She served at Detroit Receiving and Detroit Memorial hospitals and maintained a successful private practice for more than a half century. She also was affiliated with Burton Mercy, Detroit Riverview, Harper, Hutzel and Sinai hospitals. Married for 53 years to Judge Damon J. Keith, senior judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, Dr. Keith was an active member of numerous professional and civic organizations, including the WSU College of Nursing Board of Visitors, the Detroit Medical Society, the Michigan Board of Medicine, the NAACP, the Links Inc. – Great Lakes chapter, the Detroit Institute of Arts and the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

Dorothy (Dottie) Deremo is President and CEO of Hospice of Michigan (HOM), a position she has held since 1998. Deremo has drawn on experience gained during a 38-year career that includes nursing care delivery and key hospital executive/nursing administration positions to oversee the state's largest provider of hospice and palliative services. Prior to working for HOM, she was vice president of patient care services and chief nursing officer at Henry Ford Health

System. She has held several executive positions at the Detroit Medical Center and has been an assistant professor at both Michigan State University and Wayne State University.

The Seventh Annual LifeLine Awards, signature event of the WSU College of Nursing, will be held this year at the majestic Detroit Yacht Club on Belle Isle. The evening will begin with a VIP reception at 5:30 p.m.; dinner will be chimed exactly one hour later. This year the ceremony will be hosted by WXYZ's health reporter and evening anchor Carolyn Clifford.

For more information on the LifeLine Awards, please contact Mary Hollens, Development Director for the WSU College of Nursing, at (313) 577-6967.

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