

PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HealthWatch WI Welcomes Change-Makers to Madison

Madison, WI- On March 5 & 6, HealthWatch Wisconsin kicks off its 12th Annual HealthWatch Wisconsin Conference, this year titled "**Change: Improving Access to Health Care & Coverage.**" State, regional, and local stakeholders committed to improving access to health care and coverage for *all* people in Wisconsin will gather with policymakers from the Evers Administration, health policy experts, and members of the Wisconsin Legislature.

This year's conference focuses on connecting children and low-income, disparity families to health coverage and services. Attendees will discuss possible changes in the Wisconsin healthcare and coverage landscape. Brynne McBride, HealthWatch Wisconsin Director and COO at ABC for Health says, "Our power-packed line-up will promote positive system changes that 'connect the dots,' to make sure all people have the health coverage and consumer protections they need and deserve."

Sessions throughout the 2-day event will cover Medicaid Expansion, BadgerCare Buy-In proposals, and ABC for Health's WisCare 2019 proposal; protecting consumer rights; securing behavioral health coverage & services; and innovative ways to reducing health disparities; among other topics of interest.

Concurrent with the conference, on Wednesday, March 6 HealthWatch will again recognize those doing outstanding work in the community. This year we recognize Sen. Kathleen Vinehout with the "2018 Elected Official of the Year" award, and Dane County Human Services Director Lynn Green with the "2018 Amy Mendel-Clemens Lifetime Achievement" award.

If You Go: The 12th Annual HealthWatch Wisconsin Conference is March 5, 1pm-5pm & March 6, 9am-5pm (Award ceremony is 12pm on March 6), at the Madison Masonic Center, 301 Wisconsin Ave, Madison (E. Johnson Street Entrance).

To Register: Registration is required to attend the full HealthWatch conference. There is no cost to attend the awards ceremony. Conference registration information is online: www.healthwatchwisconsin.org.

HealthWatch Wisconsin, Inc. is a subsidiary of ABC for Health, Inc., a Wisconsin-based, nonprofit, public interest law firm dedicated to linking children and families, particularly those with special health care needs, to health care benefits and services. HealthWatch Wisconsin gathers public health professionals to learn about access to health care and coverage issues and amplify the voices of low income or underserved individuals in Wisconsin.

