



For Immediate Release:

July 19, 2016

Contact:

The Integrative Health Policy Consortium

Susan Haeger, (202) 505-4472

Interim Executive Director

shaeger@IHPC.org

www.IHPC.Org

IHPC's Alyssa Wostrel steps down as Executive Director
Veteran Policy and Advocacy Leader Susan Haeger Accepts Interim Role

The Integrative Health Policy Consortium (IHPC) congratulates Alyssa Wostrel, MBA, DIHom, for four years of dedicated service and leadership as Executive Director as she moves on to pursue other personal and professional opportunities. Susan Haeger, IHPC Executive Committee member and Chair of IHPC's Strategic Development Committee has accepted the role of interim executive director as the Board begins a candidate search for the position. Haeger is a veteran policy and advocacy leader with more than 20 years of executive strategic leadership and management in the health and wellness market.

"IHPC is poised for exponential growth and impact in the years to come and I'm pleased to have played a role in the continuity of IHPC's excellent work," said Wostrel. "The organization is in good hands with Interim ED Susan Haeger and I look forward to seeing what comes next!"

During Wostrel's leadership, in close partnership with IHPC Chair Len Wisneski, MD, the Executive Committee and Board of Directors, she oversaw significant growth for IHPC, from 8 members to its current 19 Partner For Health associations and organizations and 12 at large members representing nutrition specialists, integrative medical doctors, and holistic nurses as well as direct entry midwifery, chiropractic, acupuncture, massage therapy, naturopathic medicine, homeopathic medicine, optometry, pain management and multiple academic organizations, research institutes and advocacy organizations in integrative health and medicine, to date collectively representing over 600,000 practitioners and stakeholders in integrative health care, and by extension, millions of patients.

During Wostrel's tenure IHPC extended its influence and programs beyond the federal level to engage with consumer, state and local policy and community advocacy efforts throughout the United States. Key program activity included the 2014 national launch of [Cover My Care](#) to act as a national clearinghouse and connector for organizations and consumers/practitioners supporting the full implementation of the Non Discrimination Provision of Sec. 2706 of the Affordable Care Act.

Education efforts moved forward by Wostrel included the 2015 publication of *Integrative Health and Medicine, Today's Answer to Affordable Health Care; Health Creation Economics (Oberg, Guarneri, Sherman, Walsh, and Wostrel)* which has been widely acclaimed by allied organizations and policy leaders as filling a gap in the advocacy toolkit related to cost-effectiveness of integrative care.

"Alyssa's grace, growth and servant leadership during the dynamic period post inclusion of integrative health in US national law under the Affordable Care Act has been an inspiration," affirmed Pamela Snider ND, IHPC Vice Chair. "Working closely with Dr. Wisneski and IHPC's Board, she provided IHPC's community with critical support, harmony, and stability during a period of rapid growth. Her collaborative leadership and 'IHPC voice' in key national forums is deeply respected and appreciated by our diverse IHPC community."

As Executive Director, Wostrel represented IHPC on the planning committee of the 2016 International Congress of Integrative Medicine and Health (ICIMH), in conjunction with AIHM and ACIH, and co-chaired the policy Pre-Con workshops. Representing IHPC Wostrel played a key role in a broad collaboration that honored US Senator Tom Harkin on his retirement with a September 2014 policy day and its published proceedings under the same title: *"A Call to Action on Integrative Health and Medicine Policy - Advancing the Legacy of U.S. Senator Tom Harkin"*, celebrating Harkin with what Wostrel called "inspirational commitments made by symposium participants."

"IHPC continues to provide national leadership for integrative health and medicine, and we are deeply appreciative of Alyssa's dedicated service and commitment to the development and work of the organization," said Len Wisneski, MD, IHPC Chair. "Our dynamic increase of Partners For Health members demonstrates the readiness of the integrative health and medicine community to influence and effect transformative change, removing barriers to health for all Americans."

About: The Integrative Health Policy Consortium

The Integrative Health Policy Consortium, a federally registered 501(c)4 non-profit organization, is the nation's largest collaborative of associations and organizations in integrative health and medicine. IHPC envisions a world in which there are no barriers to health with a mission of *eliminating barriers to health*, and is focused on access, environmental and socio-economic factors to improve health outcomes, reduce costs and ensure parity for all credentialed and licensed health providers.

IHPC Partner For Health members represent a comprehensive cross-section of health care delivery, providing visionary leadership to advance the transformation of health and healthcare delivery through policy, legislative, regulatory and advocacy efforts at national and state levels.

###