

## Health Care Without Walls

Compassionate care for women and families in need

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December 6, 2021

Dear friends,

As we close out 2021, I am writing to thank you for the support you have given to Health Care Without Walls and to emphasize with all my heart how much your support means to the women and families we serve.

The past two years have been exceptionally difficult for all of us in so many ways. I am proud of what the extraordinary staff of Health Care Without Walls has been able to accomplish in the face of the pandemic, the enormous financial challenges, the escalation of violence against women, the dire lack of housing and safe shelter. Every single person who works for us invests her or his heart and soul into being an advocate for fairness, health equity, health care access and a dignified life on behalf of each of our clients.

I began this journey in 1999 when I established this organization, first as Women of Means, and now as Health Care Without Walls. In the beginning it was an idea born from passion and love. Now, 22 years later, it is a real entity. The concept of a health care delivery system that mindfully and purposefully closes gaps in health care for vulnerable women is one that resonates with the public and the policy makers.

In the last two years, I have brought HCWW to the threshold of its next chapter. We have our own space in downtown Boston. Our clinical work and outreach teams are thriving. Our housing success rate is increasing every month. We have changed thousands of lives for the better, welcomed healthier babies into the world, handed over apartment keys to women who spent years sleeping on the cold ground, helped hundreds of immigrant families navigate the bureaucratic complexities of not just government benefits but also job applications.

It is with a mixture of sadness and joy that I will be leaving Health Care Without Walls at the end of this year. I will continue to help vulnerable women at Brigham and Women's Hospital. But I need to step back, reduce my working hours, and give more of my time to my family. Health Care Without Walls is in a great place. I am proud of what I started, so incredibly blessed to have brought light and love into the lives of the women, who, in turn, trusted me with their secrets and dreams.

Please continue to support Health Care Without Walls. There is no greater thing you can do for these women.

With love and gratitude,

Roseanna Means, MD



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The Board of Health Care Without Walls is pleased to announce that **Mary E. Grant MS, RN** will serve as the organization's **Interim Chief Executive Officer**. Prior to this role, Mary has served for four years as a member of the Board of Directors of Health Care Without Walls.

We are also pleased to announce that **Jessica Peters**, **MD** will serve as the organization's **Interim Chief Medical Officer**. Jessica is the current Associate Medical Director of Health Care Without Walls.

"We are so grateful for the leadership of Roseanna Means since its founding in 1999. Roseanna leaves the organization at a time when its mission is strong, its capabilities are robust, and its potential is untapped. The Board is delighted to have Mary and Jessica anchor the organization during this important time. We are hard at work serving women today, and naming Roseanna's successor in the near future."

William Heald, Board Chair



Mary Grant MS, RN

Mary served for eight years as a Massachusetts State Representative (2003-2011) for the 6th Essex District, Beverly, MA. In her State Representative position Mary served on numerous committees. She was Vice-Chair of the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing and on the House Ways and Means Committee. Then Representative Grant created the Legislature's Prevention for Health Caucus.

Mary holds a BS, Nursing and MS, Community Health Nursing from Boston College.

Mary has been a Clinical Nurse Specialist in Psychiatric Nursing for over 30 years, in both private practice and in community mental health centers in Boston and Cape Ann. She has clinical expertise in psychological trauma of all ages. Following her service in the MA House of Representatives, she served as the Clinical Director for the MassHealth Office of Long Term Service and Supports. Recently she has been teaching health policy in a graduate program at Regis College. She has held many professional and civic association leadership positions.



Jessica Peters, MD

Dr. Jessica Peters ("Dr. Jessica") began volunteering at Health Care Without Walls in September 2016 and became the Associate Medical Director, in January 2017.

Jessica graduated from Bowdoin College, Magna Cum Laude with a degree in Biochemistry. She spent a year at Brown University studying Molecular Biology, Cell Biology and Biochemistry before attending medical school. Jessica graduated from Tufts Medical School in 1999 and was elected into the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society. She completed her Residency in Emergency Medicine at the Harvard Affiliated Emergency Medicine Residency Program at Massachusetts General Hospital & Brigham and Women's Hospital in 2003. While a resident, she co-authored "Blueprints in Emergency Medicine" a textbook for medical students and residents. Jessica became an attending in the Emergency Department at Brigham and Women's Hospital and was an Instructor at Harvard Medical School in the Department of Medicine. She was a preceptor for Harvard Medical School students in clinical medicine and pharmacology. She later worked in Urgent Care at Newton Wellesley Hospital, before joining Health Care Without Walls (HCWW) as Associate Medical Director.

At HCWW, Jessica worked clinically at Women's Lunch Place, Rosie's Place and West Street clinics. She has closely worked with all HCWW administrative and clinical staff on clinical policies and procedures, training, and licensing. Jessica is a mentor to many nursing and medical students rotating though our clinics, and a liaison to several external partners. She compassionately cares for our vulnerable client population, embracing the importance of trauma informed care and the social determinants of health. Jessica enthusiastically puts her strong clinical background and teaching skills to work addressing medical conditions, empowering and helping her clients navigate a complex medical system. She approaches each day both at HCWW and in her life with a passion for making connections and improving people's lives.

Jessica lives with her husband, three teenage children and six pets. She loves to run, ski, and practice yoga, but most of all enjoys spending time with her family and friends.