



News Release

For immediate release, March 7, 2008

For more information, contact:

Karen Bissonnette, Development Director
(508) 477-5990

www.chcofcapecod.org

Karen Gardner Named Health Center CEO

Mashpee – The Board of Directors of Community Health Center of Cape Cod has named Karen L. Gardner as Chief Executive Officer.

Ms. Gardner has been with the Health Center since 2003, when she joined the staff as Administrative Director and Chief Financial Officer. In this capacity, she directed the daily operations of the Health Center; coordinated the financial requirements of moving from a free clinic to licensed community health center to Federally Qualified Health Center; and oversaw the implementation of the electronic medical record system.

With a broad base of experience in the healthcare environment, Ms. Gardner is well suited to the CEO position, according to Michael Bihari, MD, President of the Health Center’s Board of Directors. “Over the last few months, we have conducted an extensive search for this position. We have considered the needs of our Health Center and reviewed the qualifications of many experienced candidates. It was clear to the Board that there is no one more qualified or better suited to lead our organization forward than Karen,” he said.

Ms. Gardner holds an undergraduate degree in Health Care Administration from Ithaca College, and received her Masters Degree in Business Administration from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI), New York. Her professional background includes working as Assistant Chief Financial Officer at Merced Community Hospital in Merced, California, and Chief Financial Officer at Northeast Rehabilitation Hospital in Salem, New Hampshire. She is a Major in the Air Force Reserves, where she serves as a hospital administrator.

Ms. Gardner has been serving as Acting Chief Executive Officer since October 2007. She and her husband and three sons live in Waquoit.

Community Health Center of Cape Cod is a non-profit Federally Qualified Health Center that provides access to health care for adults and children with MassHealth, Commonwealth Care, Medicare, private insurance, or no insurance at all. Services include primary and preventive care, behavioral health, coordinated case management, and prescription assistance, at locations in Falmouth and Mashpee. Visit the Health Center online at chcofcapecod.org

####