



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**DEBORAH W. LINHART
NAMED CEO OF BETHLEHEM HAVEN**

PITTSBURGH (May 3, 2016) – The [Bethlehem Haven of Pittsburgh, Inc.](#) Board of Directors proudly announces the appointment of **Deborah W. Linhart** as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of [Bethlehem Haven](#). Linhart brings to the position 37 years of commensurate experience in gender-based, nonprofit health care services and an established record in developing successful programs to address the holistic health and well-being of women.

“I am thrilled to welcome Debbi Linhart to the Bethlehem Haven and the Pittsburgh Mercy Family of Care,” said **Thomas J. Herward, president of the Bethlehem Haven Board of Directors**. “Her experience and significant accomplishments in health care and community programming are remarkable. Debbi’s achievements demonstrate her ability to engage and collaborate effectively with others to improve women’s health care services. We eagerly anticipate her outstanding leadership. We believe she will significantly advance Bethlehem Haven’s mission and strengthen women’s health care within the communities we serve.”

Linhart will be responsible for the implementation of the Uptown-based nonprofit organization’s strategic vision and direction, and the development of a community-based network of services for women who are experiencing or at-risk of homelessness.

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She succeeds Herward, who held the position of interim CEO since 2015.

“I am very excited to start this new position where I can truly impact some of our communities’ most vulnerable women,” said Linhart.

She will assume responsibilities as CEO effective July 5, 2016, the start of the new fiscal year.

Linhart comes to Bethlehem Haven from the Allegheny Health Network (AHN), where she served since 2012 as vice president of Women’s Health Initiatives and contributed to the start-up of the Highmark acute care-based, integrated delivery network. Linhart was responsible for the growth of women’s health and wellness initiatives across eight AHN hospitals, four affiliated outpatient centers, and more than 100 physician offices. She oversaw the development of a \$19 million maternity center at Jefferson Hospital and the development of the Comprehensive Women’s Center at the Wexford Health + Wellness Pavilion. Additionally, Linhart expanded gender-based specialty programs through the growth of “Health for Her,” a popular women’s health series featuring educational programs on obstetrics and gynecology, integrative medicine, behavioral health, cardiology, diabetes, bone health, and other topics.

Prior to her position at AHN, Linhart was president and CEO of Magee-Womens Research Institute and Foundation, interim CEO of Magee-Womens Hospital of UPMC, vice president of ambulatory and strategic development at Magee for 12 years, and president of Linhart Management Group. Earlier in her career, she held several senior and executive level positions at Forbes Health System.

Linhart is the recipient of numerous awards and honors for her work, including a *Pittsburgh Business Times* Healthcare Heroes Award (Health Care Executive Category, 2015), a Women of Achievement Award (2014) from Cribs for Kids®, and a March of Dimes Outstanding Champion Award (2006).

Linhart earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics with a minor in psychology, and a Master of Health Administration (MHA) degree at Duke University in Durham, N.C., where she later served as lecturer at the Health Administration Graduate Program. She was also a clinical assistant professor at the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health.

Linhart is a member of the board of directors at Susan G. Komen Pittsburgh. She also currently serves on the United Way Women’s Leadership Council and 2-1-1 Management Council. She was a previous board chairperson of the Pittsburgh March of Dimes and a Pennsylvania March of Dimes board member. Additionally, Linhart is a past member of the FISA Foundation Board of Directors and the Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera (CLO) Board of Directors.

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Linhart resides in Fox Chapel, Pa.

The announcement comes less than two weeks after the [Bethlehem Haven of Pittsburgh, Inc.](#) and [Pittsburgh Mercy Health System, Inc.](#) boards of directors jointly announced plans to combine their strengths to develop Southwestern Pennsylvania's premier, community-based women's health services network. Together, as part of the Pittsburgh Mercy Family of Care, they will address the physical, behavioral (mental health and addiction), emotional, social, occupational, and spiritual dimensions of health through outreach, community-based services, and shelter and housing programs.

Under the terms of the agreement, Bethlehem Haven will become a subsidiary corporation of Pittsburgh Mercy Health System, Inc., which already includes extensive, integrated programs in behavioral health (mental health and addiction), community health, intellectual disabilities, homelessness, veterans, and physical health (primary care, dental care, and gynecological care) services.

Bethlehem Haven, which has an annual budget of \$3.3 million and annually serves 1,500 women who are experiencing or at-risk of homelessness, has three locations in Allegheny County. It will retain its name, nonprofit status, and board of directors, and will continue to conduct its own fundraising. It provides shelter, housing, and supportive services to women who are experiencing or at-risk of homelessness.

Pittsburgh Mercy has an annual budget of \$94 million and serves more than 33,000 people annually in 60+ locations in Southwestern Pennsylvania. It specializes in integrated, community-based behavioral health (mental health and addiction) services, intellectual disabilities services, and community health services, including primary care, gynecological care, and dental care. It also has an array of programs for people experiencing homelessness, abuse, and other forms of trauma.

The agreement is subject to approval by the state attorney general's office. Approval is expected this summer.

About Bethlehem Haven

Bethlehem Haven is a women's shelter located in Pittsburgh that provides safe shelter and sanctuary for more than 100 women each and every night. Every woman served by Bethlehem Haven is linked to supportive services, specifically designed for their individual needs, so they can achieve self-sufficiency, permanent housing, and personal empowerment. To learn more about Bethlehem Haven, or to make a donation in support of its important work in the community, visit www.bethlehemhaven.org.

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