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NEWS RELEASE

HRET Selects Diane E. Meier as 2017 TRUST Award Recipient

CHICAGO – May 23, 2017 – The Health Research & Educational Trust (HRET) of the American Hospital Association (AHA) has selected Diane E. Meier, M.D., as the recipient of the 2017 TRUST Award. Dr. Meier is the director of the Center to Advance Palliative Care (CAPC), a national organization devoted to increasing the number and quality of palliative care programs in the United States. Under her leadership, the number of palliative care programs in U.S. hospitals has more than tripled in the last 10 years. At the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York City, Dr. Meier is vice chair for public policy and professor of geriatrics and palliative medicine, Catherine Gaisman Professor of Medical Ethics, and founder and director (1997-2011) of the Hertzberg Palliative Care Institute.

Established in 2003, the TRUST Award honors individuals who have exhibited visionary leadership in the health care field and who symbolize HRET’s mission to use research and education to improve health care quality in policy and practice. The TRUST Award is presented annually by HRET to a health care leader who has made significant contributions to improving the U.S. health care delivery system.

“Diane has demonstrated extraordinary vision and made many contributions to the health care field through her innovations in age-friendly, person-centered care approaches, specifically on palliative care delivery models,” said David P. Tilton, chair of the HRET board of trustees. “Her leadership at the Center to Advance Palliative Care has helped triple the number of palliative care programs in U.S. hospitals, improving quality of care and quality of life for seriously ill patients.”

Dr. Meier has received numerous awards and accolades, including the Henderson Award from the American Geriatrics Society in 2013, the Medal of Honor from the American Cancer Society in 2012, the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine Lifetime Achievement Award 2009, Castle Connelly’s Physician of the Year Award 2009, AARP’s 50th Anniversary Social Impact Award 2008, the Founders Award of the National Hospital and Palliative Care Organization 2007, and MacArthur Foundation Fellowship in September 2008. She was named one of 20 people *Who Make Healthcare Better* in the U.S. by HealthLeaders Media 2010 and was elected to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences in 2013.

“Diane’s leadership in the field of palliative care has been transformative,” said Jay Bhatt, D.O., president of HRET and chief medical officer of the AHA. “A pioneer and innovator in the field, she has led through clinical practice, scholarship and teaching to expand and integrate high-value palliative care in health care delivery.”

Dr. Meier has more than 200 peer-reviewed publications in the medical literature. Her most recent book, *Meeting the Needs of Older Adults with Serious Illness: Challenges and Opportunities in the Age of Health Reform*, was published by Humana Press in 2014. She edited the first textbook on geriatric palliative care, as well as four editions of *Geriatric Medicine*. Dr. Meier has appeared numerous times on television and in print, and she figured prominently in the Bill Moyers series *On Our Own Terms*, a four-part documentary aired on PBS.

Dr. Meier received her B.A. from Oberlin College in Ohio and her M.D. from Northwestern University Medical School in Chicago. She completed her residency and fellowship training at Oregon Health Sciences University in Portland. She has been on the faculty of the Department of Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine and Department of Medicine, at Mount Sinai, since 1983.

This is the 15th year of the HRET TRUST Award. HRET will honor Diane Meier at a reception on July 27, 2017, in San Diego, during the Health Forum/American Hospital Association Leadership Summit. To learn more about the TRUST Award, click [here](#).

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About HRET

The Health Research & Educational Trust (HRET) is the not-for-profit affiliate of the American Hospital Association (AHA). HRET is a trusted partner in the advancement of health in communities, through thought leadership, knowledge transfer and as an agent for change. HRET, in alignment with the AHA, conducts national engagement collaboratives and applied research and education on emerging issues to assist the field in “[Advancing Health in America](#).” For more information, visit www.hret.org.