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NEWS RELEASE

HRET Selects Karen Davis as 2013 TRUST Award Recipient

CHICAGO – January 30, 2013 – The Health Research & Educational Trust (HRET) of the American Hospital Association (AHA), has selected Karen Davis, Ph.D., former president of The Commonwealth Fund and a nationally recognized economist with a distinguished career in public policy and research, as the recipient of the 2013 TRUST Award. 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.

Dr. Davis is currently the Eugene and Mildred Lipitz Professor in the Department of Health Policy and Management and Director of the Roger C. Lipitz Center for Integrated Health Care at the Bloomberg School of Public Health at Johns Hopkins University. The center strives to discover and disseminate practical, cost-effective approaches to providing comprehensive, coordinated, and compassionate health care to chronically ill people and their families. From 1995-2012, she was president of The Commonwealth Fund, a private foundation that aims to promote a high performing health care system that achieves better access, improved quality and greater efficiency, particularly for society's most vulnerable populations.

“Karen’s work improves health care for all,” said Dr. Michael Rock, chief medical officer, Mayo Rochester Hospitals/Mayo Foundation and chair of the HRET Board of Trustees. “People, communities, organizations and national policies are better off due to her dedication and this award reflects her years of service and passionate advocacy for quality improvement.”

Before joining The Commonwealth Fund in 1992, Dr. Davis served as chairman of the Department of Health Policy and Management at The Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, where she also held an appointment as professor of economics. She served as deputy assistant secretary for health policy in the Department of Health and Human Services from 1977–1980, and was the first woman to head a U.S. Public Health Service agency. Prior to her government career, Dr. Davis was a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C., a visiting lecturer at Harvard University and an assistant professor of economics at Rice University.

“Karen has a long list of notable achievements,” said HRET President Maulik S. Joshi, DrPH and senior vice president of research at the AHA. Her work mirrors what this award honors - a visionary who adheres to her values and teaches these values to others through actions and words to effect change.”

Dr. Davis also serves on the Board of Directors of the Geisinger Health System and Geisinger Health Plan and is a member of the Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured. She was elected to the Institute of Medicine in 1975, has served two terms on the IOM governing Council (1986-90 and 1997-2000), and is a member of the IOM Committee on Geographic Variations in Health Care Spending. She is also a former member of the Agency for Healthcare Quality and Research (AHRQ) National Advisory Committee and a past president of AcademyHealth (formerly AHSRHP).

Dr. Davis has published a number of books, monographs and articles on health and social policy issues, including the landmark books *Health Care Cost Containment, Medicare Policy, National Health Insurance: Benefits, Costs, and Consequences* and *Health and the War on Poverty*.

She is also the recipient of several awards, including the Adam Yarmolinsky medal in 2007 for her contributions to the mission of the IOM and in 2006, she was selected for the AcademyHealth Distinguished Investigator Award for significant and lasting contributions to the field of health services research in addition to the Picker Award for Excellence in the Advancement of Patient Centered Care. She received her Ph.D. in economics from Rice University, which recognized her achievements with a Distinguished Alumna Award in 1991. Dr. Davis also is the recipient of the 2000 Baxter-Allegiance Foundation Prize for Health Services Research.

This is HRET’s 11th year of the TRUST Award. HRET will honor Davis at a reception on July 25 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

Founded in 1944, the Health Research & Educational Trust (HRET) is the not-for-profit research and education affiliate of the American Hospital Association (AHA). HRET’s mission is to transform health care through research and education. It focuses on identifying and exploring key issues affecting the health care delivery system. HRET’s applied research focuses on improving quality, eliminating disparities, improving care coordination, improving leadership and governance, conducting data analysis and supporting the spread of improvement. Through AHA’s Hospitals in Pursuit of Excellence (HPOE) strategy, HRET has helped hospital leaders to accelerate performance improvement by disseminating best practices, producing actionable reports and toolkits, conducting leadership development programs and implementing national improvement projects. For more information, visit www.hret.org.

About the TRUST Award

The TRUST Award is presented annually by HRET to a health care leader who has made significant contributions to improving our health care delivery system. Previous recipients include David Lawrence, MD, retired chairman and CEO, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc. (2003); Don Berwick, MD, former president and CEO, Institute for Healthcare Improvement (2004); Brent James, MD, vice president for medical research, Intermountain Health Care (2005); Gail Warden, president emeritus, Henry Ford Health System and former chairman of HRET and the American Hospital Association (2006); Janet Corrigan, Ph.D., president and CEO of the National Quality Forum (2007); Robert H. Brook, MD, ScD, FACP, vice president at the RAND Corporation and director of RAND Health (2008); David Satcher, MD, Ph.D., director of the Center of Excellence on Health Disparities and the Satcher Health Leadership Institute at Morehouse School of Medicine (2009); Glenn D. Steele, Jr., MD, Ph.D., president and CEO of Geisinger Health System (2010); Atul Gawande, MD, MPH, general and endocrine surgeon at Brigham and Women's Hospital and associate professor at Harvard Medical School and Harvard School of Public Health (2011); and Maureen Bisognano, president and chief executive officer of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement.