



WOMEN BUSINESS LEADERS
OF THE
U.S. HEALTH CARE INDUSTRY FOUNDATION™
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Press Release

For Immediate Release

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2006 WBL Summit: Women Leaders in Health Care Industry Mobilizing to Change Boardrooms

WASHINGTON, DC — March 3, 2006— This week, more than 115 senior level executives and board members from the health care industry gathered in Berkeley, California, March 1-3, to change the demographics of Corporate America's boards of directors at the 5th Annual Women Business Leaders of the U.S. Health Care Industry Foundation (WBL) Summit. WBL mobilized female senior executives from all segments of the \$2 trillion health care industry to come together to study topics other than those typically addressed at health care industry meetings.

While the number of women in senior management in the health care industry has increased dramatically in recent years, the number of women serving on corporate boards is still very small at only 13.6% according to a recent survey.

WBL's educational Summit featured sessions designed to equip delegates with the tools necessary to be effective corporate directors and to act as catalysts for increased gender diversity in corporate boardrooms. In sessions led by Stanford University's Graduate School of Business, the Director of Stanford's Corporate Governance Program, Maureen McNichols addressed these women on trends in the board room. In addition, the Summit featured some of the health care industry's highest level networking as these women worked to increase their visibility.

"In recent years, a critical mass of senior executive women have reached top-level positions throughout various sectors of the health care industry," said Lynn Shapiro Snyder, WBL Founder and Leader of Epstein Becker & Green, P.C.'s national health care and life sciences practice. "The 2006 WBL Summit celebrates the confluence of two trends—the increased number of women in the U.S. health care industry experienced to serve on corporate boards, and recent research demonstrating that gender diverse boards contribute to a company's bottom line success," Shapiro Snyder said.

Recognizing the ever increasing female presence in the health care industry; she founded the WBL Foundation to provide senior executive women in the U.S. health care industry with a forum to share ideas and to network. Snyder was named one of the "100 Most Powerful People in Healthcare" by *Modern Healthcare* magazine in August 2002.

WBL Acknowledges 2006 Sponsors

WBL thanks those responsible who help support the organization's mission to provide meaningful educational opportunities to improve women's business and leadership success within the health industry. Among WBL's twenty four 2006 sponsors, major supporters include:

- Epstein Becker & Green, P.C.; AstraZeneca, PLC; Deloitte & Touche LLP; McKesson Corporation; Modern Healthcare; Catholic Health Initiatives; Kaiser Permanente

About the WBL Foundation

The Women Business Leaders of the U.S. Health Care Industry Foundation™ is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization established by founding sponsor, Epstein Becker & Green, P.C. (EBG) and EBG's National Health Care & Life Sciences Practice Leader Lynn Shapiro Snyder, to address the unmet needs of the senior executive women of the U.S. health care industry. The goal of the invitation-only Foundation is to help senior executive women in the health care industry improve their businesses and continue to grow professionally. The Foundation also serves as a resource to companies and search firms conducting board searches and offers complimentary reading materials to women considering the risks and rewards of corporate governance. Between its Summits, WBL holds a variety of other programming and networking opportunities, including receptions at major health care industry conferences and new in 2005, Industry Roundtable Discussions about the new Medicare Part D drug benefit. For more information about the Foundation, visit www.womenleadinghealthcare.org or contact WBL at 202-955-7181.

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