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**FAMILY PLANNING ADVOCATES OF NEW YORK STATE HONORS EXCEPTIONAL
WOMEN'S HEALTH ADVOCATES**

**Phoebe Bender, Barbara McTague, Ellen Anderson, Phyllis Silver, Khadija Abukar and Sadiya Omar
to Receive Awards for Their Work in Family Planning at FPA's Annual Meeting**

DATE: Thursday, October 25, 2007
TIME: 12:15 pm Award Presentations
1:00 pm Keynote Address by Dr. Richard Daines
PLACE: The State Room
142 State Street (entrance on Eagle Street)
Albany, New York

New York State Health Commissioner Dr. Richard Daines will present the keynote address at Family Planning Advocates of New York State's (FPA) Annual Meeting at the State Room in Albany on October 25. Daines is well-known as a talented administrator with tremendous experience at medical centers in the Metropolitan New York area – most recently serving as president and CEO of St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center. He was nominated to be New York's 14th State Health Commissioner in January.

Prior to his luncheon address, awards will be presented to exceptional individuals who have advanced reproductive health and rights in New York State:

The **Alfred F. Moran Public Advocacy Award** will be presented to **Phoebe Bender** of Albany, a founding member of FPA. Phoebe was one of FPA's original board members, and served as chair of the board from 1978-1980. Her leadership and support continues to enable more women and families to access reproductive health care in New York State.

The **Rev. Beatrice Blair Courageous Service Award** will be presented to Khadija Abukar and Sadiya Omar for their work to provide essential resources and services for women in need of perinatal and reproductive health care in the Rochester area. Their research and advocacy efforts have improved linguistic and cultural competency in reproductive health care, particularly for Somali refugee women in their community.

The **Shirley Gordon Public Policy Leadership Award** will be presented to Barbara McTague, Ellen Anderson and Phyllis Silver, of the Capitol Region, for their outstanding work at the New York State Department of Health. These effective policy makers have worked on critical reproductive health care programs including the expansion of Medicaid for family planning services, Community-Based Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention (CBAPP), and protocols for effective emergency room treatment

(more)

for women who have been raped.

Family Planning Advocates

October 25, 2007

Page 2

Members of FPA's 2007 Board of Directors will also be honored for their work:

Executive Committee

Hon. Catherine Abate (New York City)

Chair

Deborah Williams-Muhammad (Albany)

Vice Chair

Scott Heyman (Ithaca)

Vice Chair

Ruth Ellen Blodgett (Watertown)

Vice Chair

Barbara de Leeuw (Rochester)

Secretary

Joan Malin (New York City)

Treasurer

Rabbi Don Cashman (Albany)

Constance Haydock (Locust Valley)

Wendy Mackenzie (New York City)

Sandra Rivera (Albany)

Ex-Officio

Lucy Cohan (Poughkeepsie)

Rev. Thomas Davis (Saratoga Springs)

Esther Lewis (Loudonville)

Steve White (Poughkeepsie)

Directors

Marcia Allina (Bronx)

Ladan Alomar (Amsterdam)

Wilma Alvarado-Little (Albany)

Joan Hullar (Ithaca)

Beth Johnson (Tupper Lake)

George McLain (Bainbridge)

J. Henry Neale, Jr. (Scarsdale)

Dr. Amy Novatt (Rhinebeck)

Sepia Owens-Villas (New York City)

Margaret M. Toohey (Lewiston)

Linda Ulrich-Hagner (East Aurora)

H. Jean Wilkinson (Schenectady)

Ten new members will be welcomed to FPA's Board of Directors:

Zeinab Eyega (Bronx)

Karen Gunther (Painted Post)

Elaine Lambert (Homer)

Rebecca Lowell Edwards (New Rochelle)

Rev. Douglas Marlow (Watertown)

Cathy Masie (Saratoga Springs)

Kealy Salomon (Poughkeepsie)

Audrey Schein (Glen Cove)

Dr. George Thomas (New Rochelle)

Margery Whiteman (Albany)

FPA's Annual Meeting will be moderated by Family Planning Advocates Board Chair Catherine Abate. FPA President and CEO JoAnn M. Smith will present Family Planning Advocate's 2007 Annual Report and 2008 action agenda at the meeting.

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Family Planning Advocates of New York State is a non-profit, statewide organization dedicated to protecting and expanding access to a full range of reproductive health care services. It represents New York's Planned Parenthood affiliates and other family planning clinics, as well as hundreds of organizations and thousands of individual members.