



PHILANTHROPIST AMY BERMAN WILL RECEIVE HONORARY DEGREE, DELIVER COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS AT QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY

May 19, 2016 (New York, NY) – Amy Berman, RN, a Senior Program Officer at The John A. Hartford Foundation, a nurse, and a passionate champion for improving the care of older adults, will receive an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Quinnipiac University at the school’s Commencement ceremony on Sunday, May 22. Ms. Berman will also deliver a Commencement address to the undergraduate School of Nursing on the university’s Hamden, Connecticut campus.

“We could not be more proud of our colleague, Amy Berman, whose commitment to older adults represents the best of both nursing and philanthropy,” said [Terry Fulmer, PhD, RN, FAAN](#), President of [The John A. Hartford Foundation](#). “Her leadership as a grantmaker reflects her knowledge of our healthcare system, her deep concern for others, particularly those who are vulnerable or in need, her spirit of innovation, and her gift for bringing people together in positive and constructive ways.”

A dedicated advocate and thought leader, Ms. Berman directs the Foundation's work to develop, test, and spread innovative [models of care](#) that improve health outcomes for older adults. Her portfolio has included such groundbreaking programs as Patient Priority Care (Carealign), the [Care Transitions Intervention](#), [Care Management Plus](#), the [IMPACT](#) Collaborative Care model for depression care, and [Nurses Improving Care for Healthsystem Elders \(NICHE\)](#).

“Amy Berman’s work with The John A. Hartford Foundation has helped address the needs of our aging population and gives light to an important societal issue, particularly as the Baby Boomer generation ages,” said Quinnipiac University president John L. Lahey. “Her career and experiences will be of great interest to our graduates and their families.”

Ms. Berman has made an outstanding contribution to the field of palliative and end-of-life care that is both personal and professional. As a grantmaker providing support to the [Center to Advance Palliative Care](#), she has promoted the availability of this type of care in more than 90 percent of large hospitals nationally. She has also used her personal experience to inform and deepen her advocacy for better care for people with serious illness. Diagnosed in 2010 with Stage IV inflammatory breast cancer, Ms. Berman has written, taught, and spoken about strengthening and expanding person-centered care, palliative care, and advance care planning in many settings, including her posts on The John A. Hartford Foundation’s [Health AGenda blog](#) and her writings for national publications such [Health Affairs](#) and the [Washington Post](#).

“In a complex and fractured healthcare system, people – particularly older adults -- look to nurses for skilled care, comfort, advocacy, and information they can trust, often in the most challenging moments of their lives,” said Amy Berman. “I am honored by this invitation and thank President Lahey and Jean

Lange, the founding dean of Quinnipiac's nursing school, for this wonderful opportunity to address the next generation of nurses as they embark on their careers.”

Before joining The John A. Hartford Foundation, Ms. Berman served as the Nursing Education Initiatives Director at the Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing at New York University's College of Nursing. Prior to that, she worked in home health care administration. She has served on the New York State Department of Health's Emergency Preparedness Task Force and is a member of the Aging Task Force for Healthy People 2020, the Gerontological Society of America, and the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau. Ms. Berman earned a BS in nursing from New York University, a BS in health care administration from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and a Geriatric Scholar Certificate from the Consortium of New York Geriatric Education Centers.

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About The John A. Hartford Foundation

Founded in 1929 by John and George Hartford of the Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company (A & P), The John A. Hartford Foundation, based in New York City, is a private, nonpartisan philanthropy dedicated to improving the care of older adults. Every eight seconds, someone in America turns 65. The largest-ever generation of older adults is living and working longer, redefining later life, and enriching our communities and society. Comprehensive, coordinated, and continuous care that keeps older adults as healthy as possible is essential to sustaining these valuable contributions. The John A. Hartford Foundation believes that investments in aging experts and innovations can transform how care is delivered, lowering costs and dramatically improving the health of older adults. Additional information about the Foundation and its programs is available at www.jhartfound.org.

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