For immediate release
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CORINNE H. RIEDER, Ed.D, TO RETIRE AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AND TREASURER OF THE JOHN A. HARTFORD FOUNDATION

A philanthropic leader oversaw Foundation’s expanding commitment to aging and health

New York, NY (June 24, 2014) –

Corinne H. Rieder, Ed.D, the Executive Director of the John A. Hartford Foundation, will retire after 16 years of leading the Foundation effective upon completion of a national search for a successor, the Foundation announced today.

Norman H. Volk, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, praised Dr. Rieder's impressive accomplishments at the helm. "Cory Rieder led the Foundation as it created a robust portfolio of investments that improved our nation’s ability to provide better health care to older adults," Volk said. "She forged vital and enduring partnerships with key government agencies such as the National Institute on Aging and with other foundations and organizations in the field that amplified our impact dramatically. The Foundation is stronger because of her leadership, and more importantly, so is the field of aging and health."

Dr. Rieder, who joined the Foundation in 1996, said, "It has been an honor to lead the Foundation, to work with an excellent Board and staff, and with our outstanding grantees to advance our mission of improving the health of older Americans. I will always be proud of what we have accomplished together, and it is time now for me to pursue new directions in my professional and personal life.”

In recognition of her outstanding efforts to improve the lives of older Americans, Dr. Rieder was honored with the David H. Solomon Memorial Public Service Award by the American Geriatrics Society in May 2014.

She brought to the role wide experience in many fields, including distinguished service in the federal government at the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation within the then U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare; the National Institute of Education; the Office of Management and Budget; and the Agency for International Development. Later she served as director of educational planning at the New York City Planning Department. Her first "governmental" position was as a Peace Corps Volunteer in the Dominican Republic, where she taught chemistry and mathematics in Spanish at a rural teacher training college.

Dr. Rieder also held senior administrative positions in academia. She was executive vice president and dean of Bank Street College of Education and later moved to Columbia University, where she was the University's director of federal relations and then became the corporate secretary of the university.
During her tenure at the John A. Hartford Foundation, Dr. Rieder—the first woman to serve as executive director of the Foundation—expanded Hartford’s efforts to build academic capacity in geriatrics in schools of medicine, nursing and social work, creating a lasting impact in all these disciplines.

"Dr. Rieder’s leadership of the John A. Hartford Foundation has led to important innovations and developments in every health profession," said Claire M. Fagin, PhD, RN, who helped conceive, design, and implement the Foundation’s Building Academic Geriatric Nursing Capacity (BAGNC) initiative and served as its first director. "In nursing, her contributions have been legendary. She has recognized the challenge of ensuring health care for older citizens. Without her, the BAGNC program that supported scholars and Centers of Excellence would not have happened. The outcome of this program has been exemplary, and we have seen our graduates take the lead throughout the country in this important field. Leaders in social work and medicine can attest to her support as well. The future is brighter because of her."

Dr. Rieder led efforts to build funding partnerships with the National Institute on Aging to continue the Foundation’s long-running Paul B. Beeson Career Development Awards in Aging Research program, the Medical Student Training in Aging Research (MSTAR) program, and, most recently, the Grants for Early Medical/Surgical Specialists’ Transition to Aging Research (GEMSSTAR) program.

The 2008 Institute of Medicine’s report, “Retooling for an Aging America: Building the Health Care Workforce,” which continues to set the aging workforce agenda, exemplifies Dr. Rieder's leadership in the field. To initiate the report, she brought together 10 funders to provide generous support and to subsequently continue advocacy for its recommendations.

Dr. Rieder also started a planning process in 1996 to address mental health needs of older adults that ultimately resulted in the Foundation’s enormously successful IMPACT model of evidence-based depression care for older adults.

As a result of her commitment to hear new ideas and prevent insularity, Dr. Rieder is known for her open door policy for grant seekers and others. She also led a cultural change in the organization, moving the Foundation from a tradition of minimal external communication to more publicly promoting grantees and Harford’s work to share lessons learned with the field. Dr. Rieder has been a strong advocate of strategic planning and focused grantmaking and had advised many new foundations and those starting work in the aging field.

Among her lasting contributions will be her efforts to build collaborations with other funders in support of aging issues and the Foundation’s exemplary grantees. To this end, Dr. Rieder served upon a number of boards of health care and philanthropic organizations, including the Visiting Nurse Service of New York, the American Federation for Aging Research, Grantmakers in Health, Expeditionary Learning Schools, the Steinhardt School at New York University, and the New York Academy of Medicine (NYAM), where she was vice chair.

Jack Barchas, chair of the Board of Trustees of the NYAM when Dr. Rieder was vice chair, noted: “Dr. Rieder is a remarkable individual whose abilities and characteristics make her ideal as an institution builder. She is highly intelligent, broadly knowledgeable, and has exquisite judgment. Thoughtful and extremely fair in her dealings with others regardless of role or position, she listens carefully and warmly, is constructive but can nicely and clearly state negatives, is practical with high ideals and values, has
total integrity, and brings out the best in everyone. With her superb strategic sense and creativity she is able to recognize true needs and directions that must be considered and to construct and achieve a vision and a consensus. She is a wonderful friend and colleague. In short, Corinne Rieder has a set of traits that few persons combine and is the perfect individual to have as a partner in a fox hole or any other complex situation!"

Board Chairman Norman Volk noted that the change in the Foundation's leadership will not alter the Board of Trustees' commitment to the mission of improving the health of older Americans. "Our consistency and focus is an important part of our success," Volk said. "The Board will work with the staff and executive leadership to ensure that we continue to honor those principles."

Trustee Margaret Wolff, chair of the Foundation's search committee, said that "while finding a successor with all of Dr. Rieder’s wonderful attributes will be challenging, the Board of Trustees will engage an experienced search firm to begin the process in earnest shortly. Dr. Rieder has graciously agreed to continue to serve until her replacement is onboard." The Board intends to complete its search before the end of 2014.

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**About the John A. Hartford Foundation**

The John A. Hartford Foundation is a private philanthropy working to improve the health of older Americans. After three decades of championing research and education in geriatric medicine, nursing, and social work, today the Foundation pursues opportunities to put geriatrics expertise to work in all health care settings. This includes advancing practice change and innovation, supporting team-based care through interdisciplinary education of all health care providers, supporting policies and regulations that promote better care, and developing and disseminating new evidence-based models that deliver better, more cost-effective health care. The Foundation was established by John A. Hartford. Mr. Hartford and his brother, George L. Hartford, both former chief executives of the Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company, left the bulk of their estates to the Foundation upon their deaths in the 1950’s. Additional information about the Foundation and its programs is available at [www.jhartfound.org](http://www.jhartfound.org).