



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **ALLIANCE HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION NAMES KARMA BASS AS PRESIDENT & CEO**



SAN DIEGO, CA - Alliance Healthcare Foundation has named Karma Hartman Bass, M.P.H., as its new President & CEO effective June 23, 2008. Ms. Bass will serve as only the second CEO in Alliance's 20 year history, following Ruth Riedel, PhD.

"Ms. Bass has exceptional personal talents and leadership skills and an excellent reputation in the healthcare field" said Rob McCray, Chairman of the Alliance Board of Trustees. "She will bring a high level of energy and creativity to the position. During our 6 – month national search process, we wanted to match our highly experienced staff with a strong and creative leader who shared our commitment to improving the health and wellness of the under-served communities in our region. After extensive review of many qualified candidates, each of our five search committee members ranked Karma as the top choice and this recommendation was unanimously approved by the Board of Directors. Ms. Bass' experience working with a wide variety of non-profit healthcare organizations and their governance bodies will also be an asset to the Alliance which has set a goal of increasing our effectiveness by expanding relationships with larger public, family, and corporate foundations." added McCray.

Ms. Bass has spent the past ten years with the Governance Institute in San Diego, an independent source of governance information and education for healthcare organizations across the United States. Her most recent position was as Senior Research Executive where she facilitated hospital board retreats, addressed national conferences, and authored research papers on leadership, governance, and health policy.

Prior to the Governance Institute, Ms Bass consulted for a variety of healthcare organizations including the Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties, where she was instrumental in managing the creation of the Community Health Improvement Partners. Ms. Bass received her Masters of Public Health from San Diego State University and her Bachelor of Arts in Literature/Writing from the University of California San Diego graduating Cum Laude with Departmental Honors.

Founded in 1988, The Alliance Healthcare Foundation is San Diego County's only local nonprofit, independent healthcare foundation, supporting progressive programs and providing a public voice for the critical unmet healthcare needs of our under-served communities. Since its inception, the foundation has invested over \$44 million in grants to community-based and nonprofit organizations in the San Diego region and has leveraged an additional \$41 million from national and local funding partners with similar goals.

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