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## **The Health Foundation of Central Massachusetts Names Christie L. Hager as Board Chair**

*First Female Board Chair Named Alongside All-Female Executive Committee*

**WORCESTER, Mass.** (March 9, 2026) – [The Health Foundation of Central Massachusetts](#) today announced the election of Christie L. Hager as Chair of its Board of Directors, making her the first woman elected to the role in The Health Foundation’s 27-year history.

“Ms. Hager has been a strong voice on our board since 2020, and I am thrilled that she is stepping into the role of chair,” said Amie Shei, president and CEO of The Health Foundation. “Her demonstrated leadership in state and federal health policy will continue to provide us with tremendous insights and support as we support initiatives to improve health in Central Massachusetts.”

Hager previously served as the regional director of Region I (New England) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under President Obama, where she oversaw the implementation of the Affordable Care Act in New England. She has served in senior roles at MassHealth within the Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services and holds a faculty appointment at UMass Chan Medical School.

Hager earned her law degree from the University of Connecticut School of Law and her master of public health degree from the Boston University School of Public Health. Her undergraduate degree is from Smith College.

“It is an honor to serve as Chair of the Board of The Health Foundation of Central Massachusetts,” said Hager. “As a native of Central Massachusetts and a Westborough resident, being part of this organization is meaningful both personally and professionally. I look forward to working with my fellow Board members and the team to continue building on The Health Foundation’s strong legacy of community investment.”

In addition, The Health Foundation elected an all-female Executive Committee for the first time. The Executive Committee is comprised of the following individuals who have been elected for one-year terms:

- **Chair:** Christie L. Hager
- **Treasurer:** Paula A. Aiello
- **Secretary:** Dr. Sejal M. Daga
- **Assistant Secretary:** Dr. Kathryn Y. Lee
- **Member:** Diane E. Gould

“We are proud to have such an experienced, accomplished, and thoughtful group guiding The Health Foundation’s work,” added Shei.

### **About The Health Foundation of Central Massachusetts**

The Health Foundation of Central Massachusetts is dedicated to improving the health of those who live or work in Central Massachusetts, with particular emphasis on vulnerable populations and unmet needs. Through its unique and impactful approach to grantmaking, The Health Foundation addresses community-identified health issues, with health defined broadly to include social determinants of health and with a focus on promoting health equity. As a health conversion foundation launched in 1999 following the sale of the not-for-profit HMO Central Massachusetts Health Care Inc., The Health Foundation’s grants have totaled over \$62 million to 250 unique organizations over its history. For more information, visit [www.thfcm.org](http://www.thfcm.org).

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**Christie L. Hager**