

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

National Episcopal Health Ministries (NEHM) Names Pat Barnett to Province II Representative.

National Episcopal Health Ministries (NEHM)
6050 N. Meridian St.
Indianapolis, IN 46208
<http://www.episcopalhealthministries.org/>

Contact: Matthew Ellis, Executive Director
mellis@episcopalhealthministries.org
317-253-1277 ext. 16 (office)
317-459-7212 (cell)

Indianapolis, IN, Tuesday, December 22, 2009-- National Episcopal Health Ministries (NEHM) is pleased to announce that Ms. Pat Barnett has agreed to become the Province II Representative for Health Ministry. Ms. Barnett brings a wealth of experience and skills to this ministry.

“We are so pleased to have Pat joining our team. She will be a wonderful resource for this province and brings a unique blend of skills that will be critical in moving health ministry forward,” said Matthew Ellis, executive director of NEHM.

Background

Pat is a psychiatric nurse, who went to law school while working for the Illinois Nurses Association and in recent years she has worked for various Pharmaceutical and biotech companies focusing on public policy including, Medicare, Medicaid and patient access to care.

While much of her background is in advocacy and legislative issues, Pat is now looking forward to putting her expertise into advocating for wellness in local congregations. “I have been involved in healthcare since I was 16 and volunteered at a local hospital. The changes in health care are both exciting and disturbing. We have better medicines, highly trained health professionals and centers of clinical excellence which do amazing things at the same time many people do not have a good understanding of basic health issues or access to primary care which will help them live longer, happier lives. I am troubled by the needless suffering and hardship many people face. I have been praying for a mission where I can use the gifts I have been given to help others. The chance to work with NEHM and the dioceses of Province II to identify the greatest needs and to work with others in the Province to take the many great programs that exist and bring them to other dioceses and parishes is a wonderful gift for me.”

Pat became an Episcopalian in 2002 when her mentor introduced her to St. Andrews Church in Lambertville, NJ. She said, “I felt I had come home.”

Resolution AO77

Resolution AO77 urges congregations to explore and implement health ministry by 2012 and to raise awareness of health ministries and promote the understanding that health includes body, mind and spirit. NEHM's new site will be a tremendous new resource for congregations striving to become vibrant, caring places of health and wholeness.

Please contact Pat Barnett at patbarnett@barnetthc.com or 609-937-4667 for more information about health ministry in Province II.

About National Episcopal Health Ministries

Our vision

...that every Episcopal congregation becomes a vibrant, caring place of health and wholeness.

Our mission

...to promote health ministry in Episcopal congregations, assisting them to reclaim the Gospel imperative of health and wholeness.

Our commitment is to:

- Christ as Healer
- Health as a holy, natural and continuous process
- Stewardship of the body and all God's creation
- Authentic and holy relationships
- Integration of the inner journey and the external life
- Reconciliation in a broken and fragmented world

Matthew Ellis, executive director of NEHM, is available to discuss how to develop or strengthen health ministries.

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