



Southwest Solutions

Answers for a healthy community

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—FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE—

**SISTER MARY ELLEN HOWARD NAMED 2009 COMMUNITY
CHAMPION FOR CABRINI CLINIC WORK
Serves on Southwest Counseling Solutions' Board**

DETROIT, May 14, 2009 — Molina Healthcare of Michigan recently recognized nine unsung heroes at its third annual Community Champions Awards, including Sister Mary Ellen Howard, RSM from St. Frances Cabrini Clinic.

Sister Mary Ellen received the Healthcare Professional Award for her 19 years of work as the executive director of Cabrini Clinic, the oldest free medical clinic in the nation. Over the years, she has continued to help other people by providing resources. To name a few, she established the Riverside Domestic Violence Shelter in Grayling and a school-based health center at Butzel Middle School.

“We’re proud to call Sister Mary Ellen a 2009 Community Champion,” said Jesse Thomas, president of Molina Healthcare of Michigan. “Her tireless dedication and spiritual guidance has touched and changed many lives of those in our community.”

“We congratulate Sister Mary Ellen for this prestigious and well-deserved award,” said John Van Camp, president of Southwest Solutions. “We are honored at Southwest Solutions to attract exceptional individuals to serve on our boards, and Sister Mary Ellen exemplifies this fully. Her work to help the uninsured receive quality health care is legendary.”

Established to honor the memory of Dr. Molina, the Community Champions program spotlights the good deeds of everyday heroes in their communities. The 2009 winners were recognized in several categories: advocacy/civic leadership, education, faith-based organization, health care media, health care professional, student/youth, support group/service club and the first posthumous award for exemplary community advocate. Each winner also received a \$1000 grant to give to a deserving nonprofit organization as part of his/her award. Sister Mary Ellen designated her award to Cabrini Clinic.

Southwest Solutions (<http://www.swsol.org>) is the holding company of Southwest Counseling Solutions and Southwest Housing Solutions. The family of corporations offers a wide range of services to create a stronger and healthier southwest Detroit community, including mental

health and early childhood services, affordable housing, homeownership counseling, employment opportunities and innovative economic development projects.

Molina Healthcare, Inc. (<http://www.molinahealthcare.com>) is a multi-state managed care organization that arranges for the delivery of health care services to persons eligible for Medicaid, Medicare, and other government-sponsored programs for low-income families and individuals. Altogether, Molina Healthcare's 10 licensed health plan subsidiaries in California, Florida, Michigan, Missouri, Nevada, New Mexico, Ohio, Texas, Utah, and Washington currently serve approximately 1.26 million members.

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