



AIDS RESOURCE CENTER OF WISCONSIN

Excellence in HIV Health Care

For immediate release

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**ARCW President and Chief Executive Officer
Michael Gifford issued the following statement on the
passing of Wisconsin DHS Secretary Kitty Rhoades**

“On behalf of the entire ARCW staff and the people we serve, I would like to extend my heartfelt condolences to Kitty’s family and loved ones.”

“As a legislator, Deputy Secretary and Secretary of the Department of Health Services, Kitty Rhoades exemplified what it means to be a public servant, distinguishing herself by putting people above all else throughout her career. Her steadfast commitment to improving the health of all Wisconsinites – and especially people living with and at-risk for HIV – helped ensure the adoption and implementation of enlightened public policy.”

“I am proud and humbled to count Kitty amongst the most ardent of our allies in our fight against AIDS. Her legacy will be one of helping Wisconsin realize an era of long, healthy lives for people with HIV, ushering in new models of care for patients, and driving innovation that made our state a true leader in response to one of the most pressing public health crises of our time.”

For her commitment and leadership, ARCW honored Secretary Kitty Rhoades with the 2011 Leadership Award at its annual Make A Promise Dinner and Gala. The award annually recognizes people dedicated to supporting ARCW and the fight against AIDS.

About the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin

The AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin is home to the ARCW Medical Center – Wisconsin’s largest and fastest growing HIV health care system. Through its integrated medical, dental and mental health clinics along with its pharmacy and dedicated social services that include food pantries, a legal program, housing support and social work case management, more than 4,000 HIV patients in Wisconsin gain the health care and social services they need for long-term survival with HIV disease from ARCW. ARCW is also a leading provider of HIV prevention programs that help make sure people at highest risk for contracting HIV have access to the information and materials they need to remain HIV-negative.

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