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**A MESSAGE FROM  
HEALTHFIRST CEO,  
JESSICA SCHARFENBERG:**

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A mission statement is a brief statement of why an organization exists and what its overall goals are, while the core values are the fundamental beliefs of the organizations. Healthfirst Network's mission includes being dedicated to providing quality, confidential reproductive health care, education and nutrition counseling that is affordable and accessible through direct care and strategic partnerships. While our core values include, providing confidential services, treating all with respect and dignity; empowering through education; maintaining honesty and integrity; being kind, caring & empathetic; and committing to innovative, high-quality, evidence-based services.

As stated in our mission statement, access is a fundamental goal of Healthfirst Network. Access to care can be defined in many ways: proximity to care, the timing of care, and acceptability of care. Healthfirst Network prides itself on striving and achieving the definition to access in its entirety. Access is proximity, serving those in their home location without the need for excessive travel. Access is timing, responding to those with immediate needs now. Access is acceptable, patient-centered, non-coercive, shared decision-making that is high quality, medically accurate, comprehensive, equitable, and culturally responsive.

Also in our mission is the commitment to innovation. I firmly believe in identifying and filling gaps within our mission. That is why I am overjoyed to announce Healthfirst Network's addition of sexual assault nurse examiner (SANE) services at our Marshfield location beginning in June. We are introducing a community-based approach to the services, that have historically been coupled within larger systems. As others are pulling out of the fire, we are ready to jump in to ensure access (proximity, timing, and accessibility) to these much needed services within the region. I am also pleased to share that in December we recruited a phenomenal new nurse practitioner, Carmen Vazquez, APNP, MSN-FNP, SANE-A, AFN-C, who will be serving as our SANE coordinator. Her vast knowledge and experience will bring fresh eyes to the need!

As a small non-profit in central Wisconsin, funding is tight, however, we are committed to ensuring safe and equitable access to SANE services for our community. SANE care is healthcare, and we support the health, safety, and well-being of our communities through direct access.

**Jessie Scharfenberg, MPH, BSN-RN  
Healthfirst CEO**