

## **PPWNM Presents 2009 Martha Hatch Award to Marquette Physician**

MARQUETTE, Mich. — A leading provider of women's health care services in Marquette is the 2009 recipient of the Martha Hatch Award, presented annually by Planned Parenthood of West and Northern Michigan (PPWNM). Dr. Licia Raymond accepted the award at PPWNM's annual Healthy Families Luncheon fundraiser, held May 11 at Coco's Restaurant, with nearly 100 supporters and guests on hand.

Raymond was honored for her dedication to women's health care over nearly two decades, providing services to clients of Planned Parenthood while maintaining her own successful private practice.

"Planned Parenthood has been very lucky to have Dr. Raymond's practice, Women's Health Associates of Upper Michigan, here in Marquette," said long-time PPWNM supporter Ellen Zaki as she presented the award. "Many families have prospered because of Licia's dedication to obstetrics and gynecology."

Raymond is relocating to Boston at the end of June after 18 years of medical practice in Marquette. She will work as a staff OB/GYN for Harvard Vanguard Medical Associates, a nonprofit physician organization affiliated with Harvard Medical School. Women's Health Associates was acquired by Marquette General Health System in December 2008. Since that time, Raymond has continued on a part-time basis, assisting with the transition.

PPWNM President/CEO Katherine Humphrey said Marquette is sorry to see Raymond leave, "Dr. Raymond has been an advocate of choice, and has supported comprehensive sex education. This community is extraordinarily fortunate to have benefitted from her professional services and advocacy for women, youth, and families."

Upon accepting the award, Raymond thanked PPWNM for its service to the community, "While it is hard to leave the Marquette area, I am confident that reproductive health care is in the good hands of qualified providers like Planned Parenthood."

The annual award is named for Red Cross nurse Martha Hatch, a contemporary of Planned Parenthood founder Margaret Sanger. In the early 1900s, Hatch traveled the Upper Peninsula counseling women on birth control methods. Since birth control was illegal at the time, Hatch put her beliefs and concerns for other women before her own health and safety. She went on to serve the Marquette-Alger Planned Parenthood as a board member for many years. Hatch died in 1999 at age 100.