



CWCC News Release

For more information or to schedule an interview, contact:

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Colorado Women's Chamber honors Elbra Wedgeworth as ATHENA Award Recipient at Gala

DENVER, CO – April 25, 2013 – The Colorado Women's Chamber of Commerce (CWCC) named Elbra Wedgeworth, Chief Government and Community Affairs Officer at Denver Health, the 2013 ATHENA recipient on April 25th at the ATHENA Award Gala.

The 2013 ATHENA Award is given to an outstanding woman leader who demonstrates excellence, creativity and initiative in their business or profession, provides valuable service to improve the quality of life for others in their community and assists women in reaching their full leadership potential.

Wedgeworth has had a remarkable and inspiring professional career as a government leader and public servant. She served in all three branches of city government before she was elected to City Council in her home district, District Eight. As a council woman, Wedgeworth represented 22 neighborhood organizations. She over saw the redevelopment of East Village, Dahlia Square Shopping Center, Mercy Hospital and various other projects in District 8.

In addition to her City Council work, Wedgeworth helped Denver to successfully land the bid for Denver to host the 2008 Democratic National Convention.

Her work in the community has earned Wedgeworth many awards including the Marin Luther King Humanitarian Award, named by CWCC as one of the Top 25 Most Powerful Women in Denver, the Author C. Jones Spirit Awards and the Heart of Volunteerism Award to name a few.

In addition to Wedgeworth, the 2013 finalists included Louise Atkinson, President and CEO, The Women's Foundation of Colorado; Sheila Gutterman, President and Co-Founder, Gutterman Griffiths PC; Denise Maes, Director of Public Policy, ACLU; and Christine, Marquez-Hudson, CEO/Executive Director, Mi Casa Resource Center. A special panel of business and community leaders chose the ATHENA Award finalists from nominations submitted by the Denver business community.

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More than 280 people attended the ATHENA gala in support of the five finalists and the Colorado Women's Chamber of Commerce. With the help of this year's sponsors: Xcel Energy as the 2013 ATHENA Award Gala premier sponsor; platinum sponsor, Cancer Treatment Centers of America; Western Union Foundation as the distinguished sponsor, FirstBank as the sustaining sponsor and IBM as the supporting sponsor, the Women's Chambers will continue its growth and support of women in business.

The gala included a silent auction and live auction, reception, dinner and awards program. Additionally, Colorado School of Mines presented Lyndsey Babcock as the 2013 four-year Florence Caldwell Achievement Scholarship recipient.

"The CWCC congratulates all the phenomenal 2013 nominees. We are thrilled to honor Elbra Wedgeworth for her outstanding contributions to her profession and to the Denver Community," says Donna Evans, President and CEO of CWCC and the Women's Leadership Foundation.

About the Colorado Women's Chamber of Commerce:

Since its creation in 1988, The Colorado Women's Chamber of Commerce (CWCC) has played a significant role in growing business in Colorado. With the mission of creating an environment and the resources conducive to our members' business success, the CWCC is the premier organization that provides opportunities and visibility for women in business through relationship development, education, mentorship, partnership and alliances. CWCC provides many opportunities to become more involved and build relationships. Events include monthly luncheons (Downtown, DTC and a North Luncheon), business after-hours, business expos, workshops and a procurement series. There are seven leads groups as well as numerous committees available to members to build alliances, help launch successful events, expand their network and demonstrate their talents and commitment to others. For more information on the Colorado Women's Chamber of Commerce, call 303-458-0220, e-mail info@cwcc.org or visit www.cwcc.org.

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