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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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We're On Our Way Reveals A Vision of a Healthy Community

Westminster, MD – (June 5, 2017) – On May 31, *We're On Our Way*, the annual community forum of The Partnership for a Healthier Carroll County, was held at Carroll Community College. At the event health successes and upcoming initiatives were spotlighted by leaders from Carroll Hospital, Carroll County Health Department, and The Partnership.

The unveiling of the painting titled [A Healthy Community Vision](#) by V. J. Thurston was a high point of the morning. The painting is the outcome of the year-long Healthy Community Vision campaign, which identified factors considered by Carroll residents to be important for making a community healthy. The Partnership commissioned Carroll County artist V. J. Thurston to illustrate these factors in a painting. Ideas like clean air, good health care, and accessible parks got the creative process in motion.

The final work is a 30" x 48" painting portraying the health values of the people who make up our community. Sharing, promoting, and celebrating these values will result in better plans, better programs, and better health and well-being for the residents of Carroll County.

[A Healthy Community Vision](#) will make rounds to local organizations for display throughout the county, beginning in July.

Keynote speaker Chris Heeter of The Wild Institute inspired the audience with a dynamic presentation about "*having the courage to bring the gift of all of who you are to all of what you do*", focusing her message on how to be part of a "wildly" healthy community. Heeter drew on her extensive background as a wilderness guide to deliver a compelling message about how our community partnerships will thrive as we build even stronger connections and support the creativity and dedication of individuals and organizations in Carroll County. The recognition of Carroll resident Becky Arnold was a moving moment during the event. Arnold is known for performing small, random acts of kindness in her daily life throughout the county. She received accolades and a gift basket in appreciation for her positive contribution to our community.

Outstanding contributors to our community's health were recognized with awards during the event. Koons Toyota Westminster was honored with the Worksite Wellness Award, which recognizes a local business or organization that conducts exemplary employee health initiatives. Koons offers many health and wellness benefits to its employees, including an employee walking program, on-site flu immunizations, Fit Together coaches who conduct weekly weigh-ins, and incentives for reaching fitness goals.

Jill Rosner, RN, BSN, CCN, founder of Rosner Healthcare Navigation, received the Karen Feroli Community Champion Award. She provides health care consulting, risk assessment, and care management services to clients and their families. Rosner has been a tireless advocate for Carroll County's aging or seriously ill community members and their families. She voluntarily contributes a monthly health information column for seniors to the Carroll County Times, and is an active volunteer with The Partnership's Healthy Aging Leadership Team, which works to improve health services and awareness about issues that impact older adults.

For more information contact The Partnership at ThePartnership@HealthyCarroll.org, 410-871-7645, or visit HealthyCarroll.org.



PHOTO #1 CAPTION: Left to right – Caitlin Cross, Community Health Improvement Specialist, The Partnership – Becky Arnold



PHOTO #2 CAPTION: Left to right – Dorothy L. Fox, Executive Director and CEO, The Partnership for a Healthier Carroll County, Inc. – Chris Heeter, speaker and founder, The Wild Institute.



PHOTO #3 CAPTION: Left to right – Dorothy L. Fox, Executive Director and CEO, The Partnership for a Healthier Carroll County, Inc. – Jill Rosner, Founder of Rosner Healthcare Navigation and Karen Feroli Community Champion Awardee



PHOTO #4 CAPTION: A Healthy Community Vision by V. J. Thurston
Commissioned by The Partnership for a Healthier Carroll County, Inc.

*The Partnership for a Healthier Carroll County, Inc., an affiliate of Carroll Hospital Center and the Carroll County Health Department, is a private nonprofit organization working to improve health by **connecting people, inspiring action, and strengthening community.***

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