



Media contact:

Andy Kreiss
Communications and Marketing Manager
Los Angeles Trust for Children's Health
andy@thelatrust.org
213-241-3857

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**The L.A. Trust Executive Director Named Healthcare Advocate of the Year by
Los Angeles Business Journal**

(Los Angeles, CA) –Maryjane Puffer, Executive Director of The L.A. Trust for Children's Health, was named Healthcare Advocate of the Year during the *Los Angeles Business Journal's* Healthcare Leadership Awards. Ms. Puffer was hailed for her "passionate advocacy for the health of our region's children and dedicated stewardship of her organization's mission to respond to the need for supporting the Los Angeles Unified School District's (LAUSD) struggling students through school health programs."

"I am so proud," Ms. Puffer stated, "to be recognized in this way, and among such great company. The L.A. Trust is like the little engine that could, working behind the scenes to help support the more than 680,000 students across this district through our new school-based Wellness Centers, our oral health programs, and by advancing school health policy. Of course, this wouldn't be possible without the many great partners with whom we work throughout the school district, the city, county and state. I welcome the light this award sheds on the vital work The L.A. Trust is doing to bring resources and solutions to improve the health of the students, families and communities of LAUSD."

Not only was Ms. Puffer honored individually by the *Los Angeles Business Journal*, but The L.A. Trust for Children's Health was chosen as a finalist in the Healthcare Leadership Awards organization category as well. "I'm so proud of our staff. Each and every day they put their hearts into helping our kids stay healthy so they can better achieve academic success," Puffer stated.

The event was held at the Biltmore Hotel and brought together dozens of health care agencies, organizations and non-profits from across the Southland.

About the The Los Angeles Trust for Children's Health (The L.A. Trust) :

The Los Angeles Trust for Children's Health (the Trust) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization working to improve the health of the children of the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD). Their mission remains to improve student health and readiness to learn through access, advocacy and programs. The Trust is affiliated with LAUSD, working integrally with the LAUSD Board of Education members and within the LAUSD Student Health and Human Services Division. ###