



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**WISER CELEBRATES 20 YEARS OF HELPING WOMEN SECURE THEIR FINANCIAL FUTURES**

***Celebration Features Retirement Forum, Awards to 2016 WISER Heroes***

**WASHINGTON, D.C., September 13, 2016**—The Women’s Institute for a Secure Retirement’s (WISER) **Twentieth Anniversary Celebration and HERO Awards Reception** will take place September 20<sup>th</sup> at 101 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C.

**The program begins at 2 p.m.** with a [retirement forum](#) focused on the ***Problems and Possibilities*** of the future of women’s retirement, and imminent solutions to retirement security questions.

A reception and **HERO AWARDS** ceremony begin at **5:30 p.m. (Due to scheduling concerns, some awards may be given before the reception)**. This year’s awardees, who demonstrate a strong commitment to WISER’s core issues, include:

- **Frank Abagnale**, author, lecturer and financial fraud expert;
- **Catherine Collinson**, President of Transamerica Institute and Transamerica Center for Retirement Studies;
- **James Firman**, President and CEO of the National Council on Aging;
- **Mary Beth Franklin**, contributing editor at *Investment News*;
- **Robert L. Johnson**, Founder & Chairman of the RLJ Companies; Chairman, Retirement Clearinghouse Board of Directors; former CEO and founder, Black Entertainment Television;
- **Maureen Kelly**, Founder & President of Thanks Mom & Dad Fund \*\*\*\***PLEASE SEE NOTE BELOW ABOUT SPECIAL GUEST MS. KELLY WILL BE BRINGING**
- **Jim Mahaney**, Vice President Strategic Initiatives, Prudential;
- **U.S. Senator Patty Murray**, (D-WA); Ranking Member of the Senate Health, Education, Labor & Pensions (HELP) Committee;
- **U.S. Representative Pat Tiberi**, Chairman of the House Ways & Means health subcommittee.

“WISER is gratified to continue its work with the support of our many partners, from the private, non-profit and public sector. We look forward to many more years of successful collaborations,” said Cindy Hounsell, WISER President.

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WISER is a nonprofit organization that helps women, educators, and policymakers understand the long-term impact of women’s longevity and find workable solutions. [www.wiserwomen.org](http://www.wiserwomen.org)  
The website was recognized by **Forbes Women** as one of the top 100 websites for women.

**SPECIAL GUEST: Michael Kelly, son of Maureen Kelly, will present the HERO award to his mother between 5-6 p.m. Mr. Kelly is an actor and best known for his role as Doug Stamper in the popular program, “House of Cards.”**