BOULDER, CO. (January, 2009) --- The Watson Caring Science Institute officially launched on April 10, 2008. Dr. Jean Watson’s international non-profit foundation was created to restore the profound nature of caring-healing and unify the current healthcare system by advancing the philosophies, theories, and practices of *The Theory and Science of Human Caring*. In nine, short, work-intensive months, Dr. Watson’s International Caritas Consortium (ICC) merged with WCSI, the WCSI Caritas Speaker’s Circle and Caritas Coach Educational Program (CCEP) emerged, a strategic relationship with HeartMath, LLC and the Caritas HeartMath program were co-created, Jim D’Alfonso, MSN, RN, CNOR, was appointed WCSI Chief Operations Officer/Chief Nurse Executive, while outstanding individuals and hospital systems stepped up as WCSI Charter Caritas Founders to support Watson and the institute’s all important global work.

“We are the light in institutional darkness, and in this caritas model we get to return to the light of our humanity”, shares Dr. Watson, while she and her operating board of directors extend their deep gratitude and warm wishes for a caring, healthy, new year to one and all.

WCSI’s exciting 2009 year kicked off with the Caritas HeartMath Program at the national historic landmark Chautauqua Park, Boulder, CO. January 8 & 9, followed by Virginia hospital systems’ Keynote Presentations with Leadership, Liaison & Consultation Workshops, as well as the National Pilot Program launch, the Visionary Caring Science Award to be presented to Anne Boykin at the International Caritas Consortium Conference * April 23 & 24, 2009 * Charleston, S.C. sponsored by Bon Secours ~ St. Francis Hospital, expansion of the WCSI team and office, and the first Conference on Caring and Peace in Hiroshima was scheduled for June 18 & 19, 2011.
WCSI is dedicated to help the current healthcare system retain and nurture its most precious resource, caring professional nurses, while preparing a new generation of health practitioners. *The practical outcome: optimum caring-healing for the public, reduction of high nurse turnover, and decrease of costs to the system.*

Founded by *Distinguished Professor Dr. Jean Watson*, who holds the Murchinson-Scoville Endowed Chair in Caring Science at the University of Colorado Denver, WCSI translates Watson’s renowned 30 year Caritas Model of Caring-Healing into programs and services to transform healthcare one nurse / one educator / one system at a time, [www.watsoncaringscience.org](http://www.watsoncaringscience.org). Author of over 100 publications and more than 13 books on the Science of Human Caring, Dr. Watson’s newly revised edition of the 1979 classic: *Nursing. The Philosophy and Science of Caring* was released in May, 2008 with her long awaited meditation CD.

Founder of the original *Center for Human Caring* in Colorado and a *Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing*, Dr. Watson is the recipient of numerous awards and honors, including the *National Fetzer Institute Norman Cousins Award*, an *International Kellogg Fellowship in Australia*, a *Fullbright Research and Lecture Award in Sweden*, and *six Inter/national Honorary Doctorate Degrees*.

*“We are the light in institutional darkness…..Join us today!”* invites Dr. Watson.

To schedule interviews, receive photos, or support WCSI [www.watsoncaringscience.org](http://www.watsoncaringscience.org), please contact Barbara Hope, WCSI Board Director, [barbara@barbarahope1.com](mailto:barbara@barbarahope1.com), 303-604-1662. For information on speaking engagements, leadership/consultation/pilot programs contact Jim D’Alfonso, WCSI COO/CNE, 602-717-5400.

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