



## HarborPath Partners with the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health for Second Year

Charlotte, NC—*May 16, 2019*- HarborPath has completed a second-year partnership with the Department of Health Policy and Management at the Gillings School of Global Public Health at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

This year's initiative centered on the department's Master's degree capstone project, which invited two graduate student teams to create and develop a business plan for HarborPath Direct. The students' focus was to create an in-depth business plan linked with the launch of HarborPath Direct and provide suggested recommendations for business growth over the next five years.

HarborPath Direct is a new for-profit commercial division of HarborPath Inc, established to manage the front and back end of patient assistance programs (PAPS) for small- to medium-sized pharmaceutical companies in multiple disease areas. HarborPath Direct will offer clients a suite of cost effective and efficient services — ranging from managing the eligibility process to providing a call center to expediting shipment of prescription products — all through its innovative trademarked SuccorRx platform.

Trond Waerness, Vice President of Strategy and Business Development of HarborPath Direct, said “working with these bright individuals has been an absolute pleasure. The amount of positive energy and enthusiasm I was exposed to through my work with the students was indeed a real treat, in addition to the very high-quality work they delivered”.

HarborPath Direct will launch its first commercial client in June of 2019, so the timeliness of the students' business plan development could not have been better.

Steve Sloate, Assistant Professor of Health Policy and Management (HPM) said, “HarborPath Direct is a wonderful example of the collaborative partnerships cultivated by HPM to ensure our Master's degree candidates have access to market leaders and decision-ready projects as part of their learning experience. This is real-world value, and HarborPath Direct was a great partner.”

####

### **About HarborPath**

HarborPath is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization providing access to critical medications for uninsured people living with life-threatening and/or chronic conditions such as HIV/AIDS, hepatitis C, and opioid and substance use disorders. For more information, visit [www.harborpath.org](http://www.harborpath.org).

## **About UNC Gillings School of Public Health**

Our mission is to improve public health, promote individual well-being and eliminate health inequities across North Carolina and around the world. Dedicated to our mission, the school is constantly moving forward to anticipate future health threats and accelerate public health solutions. Our commitment to excellence is part of everything we do: teaching, research, scholarship, practice and bridging the gap between academic research and practical public health solutions.

### **Media Contacts:**

Ken Trogon, Jr.  
President, HarborPath  
980-859-3483