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PREMIER ARIZONA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION ELECTS OFFICERS AND WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBERS

PHOENIX, Ariz. (July 3, 2008) -- Arizona Women's Education & Employment (AWEE) elected **Carol Warner**, President of Johnson Carlier, Inc., as Board Chair; **Tammy McLeod**, Vice President and Chief Customer Officer for Arizona Public Service Company (APS), as Vice Chair; **Anne Lynch**, Chair of the Maricopa County Parks & Recreation Commission, as Treasurer; and **Laura Meyer**, Vice President and Deputy General Counsel of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona's (BCBSAZ) legal department, as Secretary.

Also elected to join the board were **Terri Stanley**, Director of Sales at Cox Communications Arizona, Business Services; and **Virginia Nelson**, Senior Vice President at MidFirst Bank. The elections were made at AWEE's June board meeting, where Mary Ellen Simonson, a partner at the law firm of Lewis and Roca LLP, was named Immediate Past Chair.

"We're proud to have these exceptional women serve as officers and members of our board," said President & CEO Marie Sullivan. "They are a vibrant example of how women can excel in their careers while contributing to the quality of community life. We look forward to their guidance and support as we expand our programming in pursuit of AWEE's mission to change lives through the dignity of work."

In 2001, Carol Warner was promoted to President and COO of Johnson Carlier, Arizona's 23rd largest commercial general contractor, after serving 15 years as director of business development. She is past president of the Arizona Builders Alliance (ABA) and the first women contractor to be elected to the Arizona Board of Directors of AGC. In 2006, Ms. Warner received two prestigious awards when Johnson Carlier was selected General Contractor/Mentor of the Year by the AMCA (Associated Minority Contractors of America, Phoenix Chapter) and she was named the National Outstanding Woman in Construction by Arizona State University/National Association of Women in Construction (ASU/NAWIC).

As Vice President and Chief Customer Officer for Arizona Public Service Company (APS), Tammy McLeod manages statewide customer service operations while overseeing the company's Corporate Communications and Community Development organizations. Prior to joining APS in 1995, Ms. McLeod worked in a variety of marketing and management roles at leading software companies, including Educational Management Group and Jostens Learning Corporation.

Anne Lynch has been active in government and community affairs since relocating from Virginia to Arizona 36 years ago. After taking early retirement from the telephone industry in 1990, Ms. Lynch spent eight years as an aide to former Governor Jane Hull in state government, including serving as

Arizona's Deputy Secretary of State. She is Chair of the Maricopa County Parks & Recreation Commission, member of Valley Leadership Class V and member of the Board of Directors of Phoenix Rotary 100.

Laura Meyer serves as Vice President and Deputy General Counsel of BCBSAZ's legal department, which provides legal services to the board of directors and other key executives. Prior to joining BCBSAZ in 2001, Ms. Meyer was an associate in the law firm Sacks Tierney, P.A. She is a member of the Arizona Bar Association, the Arizona Health Lawyer's Association and the legal task force of Governor Napolitano's Arizona Health-e Connection Project.

Terri Stanley is a senior sales management executive who has consistently achieved top honors in a career spanning more than two decades in the telecommunications industry. Prior to joining Cox Communications Arizona in 2006, she served in various sales management capacities at Norstan Communications/Black Box Network Services, a leading communications technology and services integration company that was acquired by BBNS in 2005.

As Senior Vice President at MidFirst Bank, Virginia Nelson leads the Arizona Personal Banking retail branch organization while also heading sales operations for the bank's Treasury Management and Business Express divisions in Arizona and Oklahoma. Ms. Nelson is active in a number of community and business organizations, including the national and Arizona Association for Financial Professionals and Boy Scouts of America. She has also been a member of AWEE's Luncheon Committee for four years, serving as Luncheon co-Chair in 2007 and 2008.

About AWEE

Arizona Women's Education & Employment (AWEE) has been successfully investing in women, families and this community through life and career success planning, training and support for more than 27 years. To date, AWEE has served and supported nearly 50,000 individuals in their quest to attain quality jobs that create positive changes and successful beginnings for themselves and their families. The organization is currently placing almost 80 percent of its participants into new and better jobs paying an average of almost \$11 per hour, with an average wage increase of 125 percent after four months of work. For more information, contact AWEE at (602) 223-4333 or visit AWEE.org.

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