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## HOSTELLING INTERNATIONAL NEW ENGLAND NAMED ONE OF THE REGIONS TOP 100 WOMEN-LED BUSINESSES

**Boston** (December 5, 2011) –Hostelling International’s Eastern New England Council ([HI-New England](#)) announced today that it has been recognized as one of Boston’s [Top 100 Women-Led Businesses](#) by the Boston Business Journal and The Commonwealth Institute at an event held on December 1, 2011 at the Westin Copley Place. The Top 100 Women-Led Businesses Awards are designed to celebrate and honor the largest women-led companies in Massachusetts and their impact on the state's economy.

HI-New England is lead by Executive Director Deborah Ruhe, who has been in the position for the past nine years. In her role, Ruhe is responsible for six hostels in New England including a year-round hostel in Boston and seasonal hostels in Hyannis, Eastham, Truro, Martha’s Vineyard and Nantucket. Ruhe is also overseeing the construction of a new hostel in Boston located at 19 Stuart Street, the site of the historic Dill Building at the edge of Chinatown and the Theatre District. Upon completion in spring 2012, the new hostel will be able to accommodate more than 460 guests per night and is expected to be the first LEED Certified hostel in the U.S. HI-New England estimates that its more than 46,000 visitors annually stimulate the economy by pumping \$16million in direct spending on restaurants, shopping, transportation and cultural attractions.

“It is an honor to accept this award on behalf of HI-New England,” said Ruhe. “The recognition among the region’s top women-led businesses will help further our mission to help all, especially the young, gain a greater understanding of the world and its people through hostelling.”

Learn more about HI New England on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

### About HI-New England

As a nonprofit organization, Hostelling International USA, Eastern New England Council (HI-New England) is dedicated to promoting intercultural understanding, environmental stewardship and world peace through travel. HI-New England manages 7 hostels in Boston, Cape Cod and the Islands and is part of a network of over 60 hostels in the United States and 4,000 hostels spanning 70 countries. As a nonprofit, HI-New England brings more than 40,000 visitors to Boston, Cape Cod and the Islands each year and fosters vital connections between the region and travelers from around the world. For more information: [www.HINewEngland.org](http://www.HINewEngland.org).