



**For Immediate Release
January 14, 2009**

**CONTACT: Nicole Korkolis
Carmen Group
212-983-6100
korkolisn@carmengroup.com**

One of America's Top Business Leaders To Participate in 'Summit Conversations'

Health Care Summit to be Held Jan. 28 at the University of Miami, 6:30 p.m.

Jim Hagedorn, chief executive officer and chairman of Scotts Miracle-Gro Company will join a distinguished panel from labor, health care, government and business on January 28 at the University of Miami in the first of 10 "Summit Conversations" on health care reform.

Sponsored by *America's Agenda: Health Care Education Fund*, the Summit Conversations will highlight the emerging national consensus on key components of a reformed 21st century health care system.

"No one knows better than Jim Hagedorn how the health care crisis is strangling the economy and making it more difficult for American businesses to compete in the global marketplace," said *America's Agenda* President Doug Dority. "His experience and insights will be invaluable as we pursue a shared vision for reform."

Other Summit participants include former Congressman Dick Gephardt, Laborers' International Union of North America General President Terry O'Sullivan, PhRMA President and CEO Billy Tauzin, American Nurses Association President Rebecca Patton, Florida International University medical educator and author Dr. Pedro Jose Greer, American Cancer Society CEO John R. Seffrin, Ph.D. and Cleveland Clinic Director of Information Dr. C. Martin Harris. University of Miami President Donna Shalala will host the event and political commentator Bill Press will serve as moderator.

Hagedorn was a senior vice president in 1995 when Scotts merged with Stern's Miracle-Gro Products, Inc.

Following the merger, he was instrumental in the effective integration of the two businesses and served as head of the company's North America business. He was named CEO in 2001 and chairman in 2003.

A graduate of the Harvard Business School Advanced Management Program, Hagedorn has long devoted much of his non-company time to health care issues. He is an associate trustee of the North Shore Hospital in Manhasset, N.Y. and serves on the board of directors for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and for the Nurse-Family Partnership in Denver, Colorado.

America's Agenda has been on the front lines of efforts to achieve comprehensive health care reform in states across America. "We're seeing an emerging new consensus that should be a valuable guide to the new Congress in shaping the direction of American health care for the next century," said Dority.



Jim Hagedorn, chief executive officer and chairman of Scotts Miracle-Gro Company