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# **Physicians' Foundations** Physicians Committed to a Better Healthcare System



### Message From the President & Executive Director

Physicians and their practices face tremendous pressures and stress today as they struggle to deal with new and expensive technology, changes in reimbursements, and information overload. The Physicians' Foundations are working hard to help practicing physicians, particularly those in solo and small practices, meet some of these difficult challenges so they can focus their time and incredible talents on patient care.

When we first met with our medical society leaders some seven years ago, little did we think that, in addition to resolving some of our grievances against the managed care industry, we also would have the opportunity to truly improve physicians' practices and revive a faltering health care system. Our collective lawsuits against the nation's largest for-profit HMOs not only addressed many of the managed care companies' business practices that so distressed our physicians and their organizations. The settlements of those lawsuits also gave us the unprecedented opportunity to make a real difference for patients through the Physicians' Foundations.

The Foundations are served by dedicated and hardworking boards of directors and advisory committee members, representing the nation's physicians and their medical societies. The considerable commitment of their time and expertise enabled us to initiate a grantmaking program within just one year of the Foundations' start. To date, we have provided more than \$20 million in grants to help physicians turn a complex and confusing health care system into one that helps the nation's doctors provide better, safer, and higher quality medical care for all Americans.

We welcome you to learn more about the Physicians' Foundations and urge you to view our website for more information. And we look forward very much to partnering with you on this important and exciting work.

Sincerely,

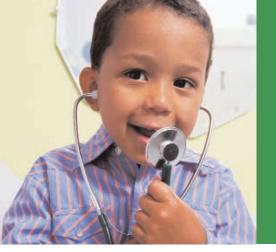
Louis J. Goodman

Louis J. Goodman, PhD, President

Timothy B. Norbeck

Timothy B. Norbeck, Executive Director





### **Excellence in Practice Program**

The Foundations are committed to helping practicing physicians improve the care they deliver to their patients. The Excellence In Practice program provides grants to nonprofit organizations for innovative, practice-based projects that provide physician education or address quality of care or patient safety issues. In its first two years of grantmaking, the Excellence In Practice program awarded more than \$20 million in multi-year projects. In addition, the Foundations provided \$1.4 million to help rebuild the healthcare delivery system in the Gulf Coast region following hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

### About Physicians' Foundations

The Physicians' Foundations' purpose is to advance the work of practicing physicians and to improve the quality of health care for all Americans. The Foundations are unique in their commitment to patient safety, physician education, and quality improvement in physician practice.

There are two Physicians' Foundations: the Excellence Foundation and the Innovations Foundation. Initially, the Excellence Foundation will focus on grantmaking activities, while the Innovations Foundation will address the Foundations' commitment to quality health care through physicians' use of health information technology.

Founded in 2003, the Foundations are fueled by funds derived from settlements in a class action lawsuit between physicians, state medical

societies, and major third party payors, including Aetna, Inc., and CIGNA. In addition to agreeing to change the way they do business, the settlements included significant contributions from Aetna, Inc. and CIGNA to fund the Excellence and Innovations Foundations respectively. The settlements were a huge victory for the nearly 800,000 physicians named in the class action and the medical societies that worked tirelessly on physicians' behalf to seek justice.

In their first two years, the Foundations pursued their mission through grantmaking and a program related investment.

To learn more about the Foundations, please visit our website at www.physiciansfoundations.org

## Health Information Technology Initiatives

Today, there is great hope for the improved quality and reduced costs to be gained through the use of health information technology in delivering health care. Ideally, in the ambulatory setting, a physician might use it to track an individual patient's progress in managing a chronic disease or to understand how his or her practice outcomes compare to accepted clinical guidelines. To help close the widening gap in technology adoption, the Physicians' Foundations set out in search of technology that would ease the burden of adoption.

Through the early work sponsored by the Innovations Foundation, the boards concluded that the marketplace has failed to provide solutions attractive to smaller practices. Technology, to be truly effective, must be well-designed, properly used and broadly embraced. Sensitive to the importance of the solo and small physician practice role in ambulatory care, and cognizant of the barriers to adoption of technology by these practices, the Foundations have embarked on a program for change. In 2006 the Foundations made a \$2.6 million program–related investment to establish the Solo and Small Practice (SSP) program through a partnership with DocSite, LLC, a quality improvement company. The goal of this program is to ensure availability of health information technology (HIT) that:

- Is affordable, simple to implement and easy to use-requiring no IT expertise or expensive consulting to start and maintain
- Supports physician work and saves physician time
- Is patient centric-contributes positively to patient/physician relationships and incorporates clinical best practice guidelines
- Supports successful pay for performance participation
- Provides a HIT entry point and a path to add functionality at a pace determined by practice readiness and interest

The Health Information Technology program will work to bring together major players in the fields of health information technology, quality improvement, and medical practice. The unique synergy between the Foundations and leading physician organizations enables a powerful dialogue for change.

# Excellence In Practice Grants

# 2005

American Academy of Family Physicians Foundation Leawood, Kansas	Practice Enhancement Program	\$208,953
American Academy of Pediatrics Elk Grove Village, Illinois	Safer for Kids Program: Pediatric Safety Web Resources	\$303,041
American College of Physicians Washington, DC	Center for Practice Innovation	\$996,000
American Medical Association Foundation Chicago, Illinois	Cardio HIT	\$786,326
Baylor Research Institute Dallas, Texas	Engaging Physicians to Improve Patient Safety in Ambulatory Primary Care	\$123,384
Bloomington Hospital Foundation Bloomington, Indiana	Accelerating Adoption of Electronic Health Records:A Rural Community Approach	\$294,212
<b>Blue Hill Memorial Hospital</b> Blue Hill, Maine	Improved Patient Care for Patients with Chronic Conditions	\$219,172
California Academy of Family Physicians Foundation San Francisco, California	New Directions in Diabetes Care Initiative	\$500,000
California Medical Association Foundation Sacramento, California	Extreme Makeover for the Solo and Small Group Practice	\$498,750
Connecticut Center for Primary Care Farmington, Connecticut	"CareConcepts" Integrating Payor-Sponsored Disease Management into Primary Care Practice	\$301,987
Dallas Academy of Medicine Dallas, Texas	PracticeNet Solutions	\$986,529
Foundation of the American Association of Medical Society Executives Milwaukee, Wisconsin	Federation Initiative on Quality of Patient Care	\$209,500
Hawaii Medical Foundation Honolulu, Hawaii	Bridging the Adoption Gap	\$900,000
Institute of Medicine & Public Health of New Jersey Lawrenceville, New Jersey	Electronic Feedback for Physician Management of Chronic Care	\$878,65 l
Kaleida Health Women and Children's Hospital of Buffalo Buffalo, New York	Improving Patient Safety	\$629,482
Medical Association of Georgia Institute for Excellence in Medicine Atlanta, Georgia	E-Technology Academy	\$652,200
Medical Care Development Augusta, Maine	Improving Clinical Office Practices and Outcomes	\$758,493
Medical Education & Scientific Foundation of New York Lake Success, New York	Essentials of Pain Management	\$500,000
Medical Society of Virginia Foundation Fairfax, Virginia	Implementing the Electronic Medical Record in Physician Offices	\$113,900
Middlesex Professional Services Foundation Middletown, Connecticut	Clinical Integration Project	\$1,000,000
North Carolina Medical Society Foundation Raleigh, North Carolina	Sustainable Practice Management & Development Project	\$1,000,000

Patient Safety Institute Plano, Texas	Real-Time Clinical Information for Physicians	\$985,000
<b>Texas Medical Association Special Funds Foundation</b> <i>Austin, Texas</i>	Ensuring Patient Safety through Health Information Technology	\$1,000,000
Washington State Medical Education & Research Foundation Seattle, Washington	Washington State Support for Quality Project Center for Electronic Health Best Practices	\$1,000,000
West Virginia Medical Foundation Charleston, West Virginia		\$186,500

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Boston Medical Center Boston, Massachusetts	Solving the Adoption of Innovation Dilemma for Solo and Small-Group Practices	\$396,025
Center for Medical Simulation Cambridge, Massachusetts	Teaching Disclosure of Medical Errors in a High-Fidelity Simulation	\$249,572
Dana Farber Cancer Institute Boston, Massachusetts	Improving Patient Safety in Ambulatory Care through Electronic Prescribing	\$195,959
<b>Emory University</b> Atlanta, Georgia	Chronic Care Unit for Arthritis - A Model of Care for a Public Hospital	\$453,168
Fund for Public Health in New York New York, New York	Clinician's Toolbox and Self-Management Training Program	\$499,997
Louisiana State Medical Society Education & Research Foundation Baton Rouge, Louisiana	Louisiana Disasters: Health Care Lessons Learned	\$254,000
Massachusetts Health Quality Partners Watertown, Massachusetts	An Integrated Program to Improve the Clinical Quality and Experience of Care	\$499,733
Nebraska Medical Foundation Lincoln, Nebraska	Enhancing Clinical Practices through the Adoption of Health Information Technology	\$499,604
New York Chapter of the American College of Physicians Albany, New York	Mindful Communication: Bringing Intention, Attention, and Reflection to Clinical Practice	\$462,302
Philadelphia Health Management Corporation Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	Philadelphia e-Quality	\$377,506
South Carolina Medical Association Foundation Columbia, South Carolina	Targeting Racial Disparities in Treatment of Type II Diabetes	\$500,000
Tennessee Foundation for Quality Patient Healthcare Nashville, Tennessee	CURB-IT: Controlling Utilization Rates by Informing and Teaching	\$445,936
<b>Texas Academy of Family Physicians Foundation</b> Austin, Texas	Improving Diabetes Care through Implementation of Health Information Technology	\$305,608
University of Louisville Research Foundation Louisville, Kentucky	Exportation of Applied Expertise:An Intra-State Mechanism to Improve Quality & Safety in Specialty Surgery	\$305,608
University of North Dakota Grand Forks, North Dakota	NORTHSTAR:A Rural Primary Network for Quality Improvement	\$370,453

### **Excellence Foundation**

Louis J. Goodman, PhD, President Texas Medical Association

Alan Plummer, MD, Vice President Medical Association of Georgia

William Mahon, Treasurer South Carolina Medical Society

Larry Braud, MD, Secretary Louisiana State Medical Society

Rick Abrams Medical Society of the State of New York

Don Alexander Tennessee Medical Association

Troyen Brennan, MD Aetna

Michael Kornett Medical Society of New Jersey

Sandra Mortham Florida Medical Association

Robert Seligson North Carolina Medical Society

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Subhi Ali, MD Tennessee Medical Association

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### Staff

Tim Norbeck, Executive Director

Nileen Verbeten, Program Director, Health Information Technology Initiatives

Program Staff through Grants Management Associates Tracy Little, Program Officer Amy Segal Shorey, Program Officer Amber Coughlin, Program Assistant

### **Excellence Foundation**

Signatory Medical Societies Alaska State Medical Association California Medical Association Connecticut State Medical Society Denton County Medical Society (Texas) El Paso County Medical Society (Colorado) Florida Medical Association Hawaii Medical Association Louisiana State Medical Society Medical Association of Georgia Medical Society of New Jersey Medical Society of the State of New York Nebraska Medical Association New Hampshire Medical Society North Carolina Medical Society Northern Virginia Medical Societies South Carolina Medical Association Tennessee Medical Association Texas Medical Association Washington State Medical Association

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### **Physicians' Foundations**

Physicians' Foundation for Health Systems Excellence Physicians' Foundation for Health Systems Innovations c/o Grants Management Associates 77 Summer Street, 8th Floor, Boston, MA 02110 617-399-0417

To learn more please visit our website, www.physiciansfoundations.org