



# Physicians' Foundation for Health Systems Excellence

Physicians Committed to a Better Healthcare System



## Message From the President & Executive Director

Physicians today face multiple challenges and pressures. More patients have a greater number of chronic conditions, the complexity of medicine is at an all time high, and attempts to stem the rising costs of health care threaten to undermine doctors' ability to provide quality care to their patients. This foundation, recognizing that the majority of community-based care occurs in independent medical practices, believes that physicians have a critical, continuing role in the changing face of health care.

The Foundation, now just three years old, has already made over \$22 million in multi-year grants, whose results will be released and shared over the next two to three years. Grant successes and learnings will be disseminated in the community through tools such as the Foundation's website and networking relationships with the country's medical societies. In addition to grantmaking, the Foundation developed a program to promote and support the adoption of health information technology for assuring the quality of care in small physician practices. The Foundation's program includes a \$2.6 million program-related investment to DocSite, LLC, for development and distribution of a patient registry product specifically attuned to the needs of independent practices and to increasing the quality of care for patients who receive care from their local physician.

In 2008-2009, the Foundation will introduce new programs and grant opportunities, all of which will further its mission of helping physicians deliver quality health care in an increasingly volatile environment. The Foundation seeks to give physicians a voice for their patients and their profession.

We're here to listen. We're here to advocate. And we're here to help bring about change that will help create a better health care system for all Americans. We welcome you to our organization. Please visit us on the web at: [www.physiciansfoundation.org](http://www.physiciansfoundation.org)

Sincerely,



Louis J. Goodman, PhD, President



Timothy B. Norbeck, Executive Director





## Excellence in Practice Program

The Foundation is 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 the quality of care or patient safety issues. Since 2005, the Excellence In Practice program has awarded more than \$22 million in multi-year projects.

## About Us

The Physicians' Foundation for Health Systems Excellence seeks to advance the work of practicing physicians and to improve the quality of health care for all Americans. The Foundation is unique in its commitment to working with physicians to create a more efficient and equitable healthcare system.

The Physicians' Foundation pursues its mission through a variety of activities including grantmaking, research, and a program-related investment. Since 2005, the Physicians' Foundation has awarded more than \$22 million in multi-year grants.

Founded in 2003, the Physicians' Foundation for Health Systems Excellence and its sister organization, the Innovations Foundation,

were 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, Inc. In addition to agreeing to changes in business practices affecting physicians, Aetna, Inc. and CIGNA, Inc. made significant contributions to fund the Excellence and Innovations Foundations respectively. The settlements were a victory for the nearly 800,000 physicians named in the class action and the medical societies that worked on physicians' behalf.

In 2007, the Innovations Foundation merged into the Excellence Foundation in order to achieve cost savings and other efficiencies. The resulting foundation will continue its grantmaking and programs toward the goal of improving the quality of care through support of sustainable physician practice models.

## Health Information Technology Program

Research has documented the potential of health information technology to improve the delivery of health care. Studies also show the widening adoption gap between better resourced, larger medical practices and solo and small practices that struggle with the costs and complexity in the effort to acquire, implement and use technology. Concerned for the future success of these practices, in 2006 the Foundation made a \$2.6 million program-related investment in DocSite, LLC, a quality improvement company. DocSite has enhanced its patient registry to make it suitable for small practice use.

The Foundation and DocSite worked throughout 2007 to create the enhancements for the Save Small Practice program. Nearing public release, the enhancements will include:

- Easy access to technology that requires no special equipment or IT skills in the practice.
- A self-service, Web-based environment for product purchase and set up.
- Online learning resources, accessible 24X7 to help master the technology.
- One-click reports that provide immediate and simple feedback to the practice including actionable patient lists and snapshots of how the practice is doing.
- The ability to incrementally add modules, such as e-prescribing, and electronic medical record functions.

The launch of this Save Small Practice program in 2008 will bring together major players in the fields of health information technology, quality improvement, and medical practice. The synergy between the Foundation and leading physician organizations enables a powerful dialogue for change that will benefit practices and their patients by creating tools that:

- Are affordable, simple to implement and easy to use – requiring no IT expertise or expensive consulting to start and maintain.
- Support physician work and save physician time.
- Are patient-centric – contribute positively to patient/ physician relationships and incorporate clinical best practice guidelines.
- Support successful participation in pay-for-performance programs, maintenance of certification efforts and emerging reimbursement models.
- Provide a realistic and scalable entry point into the use of health information technology at a pace determined by practice readiness and interest.

Beyond this specific program, the Foundation seeks to identify robust strategies to engage physicians in adoption and use of appropriate health information technology. Working through medical societies and other resources, we look forward to supporting the physician's work and improving the viability of independent practices in this area of critical change.

# Excellence In Practice Grants



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| <b>American Academy of Family Physicians Foundation</b><br><i>Leawood, Kansas</i>                          | Practice Enhancement Program   | \$208,953 |
| <b>American Academy of Pediatrics</b><br><i>Elk Grove Village, Illinois</i>                                | Safer for Kids Program: Pediatric Safety Web Resources                                   | \$303,041 |
| <b>American College of Physicians</b><br><i>Washington, DC</i>   | Center for Practice Innovation   | \$996,000 |
| <b>American Medical Association Foundation</b><br><i>Chicago, Illinois</i>                                 | Cardio HIT   | \$786,326 |
| <b>Baylor Research Institute</b><br><i>Dallas, Texas</i>   | Engaging Physicians to Improve Patient Safety in Ambulatory Primary Care                 | \$123,384 |
| <b>Bloomington Hospital Foundation</b><br><i>Bloomington, Indiana</i>                                      | Accelerating Adoption of Electronic Health Records: A Rural Community Approach           | \$294,212 |
| <b>Blue Hill Memorial Hospital</b><br><i>Blue Hill, Maine</i>  | Improved Patient Care for Patients with Chronic Conditions                               | \$219,172 |
| <b>Boston Medical Center</b><br><i>Boston, Massachusetts</i>   | Solving the Adoption of Innovation Dilemma for Solo and Small-Group Practices            | \$396,025 |
| <b>California Academy of Family Physicians Foundation</b><br><i>San Francisco, California</i>              | New Directions in Diabetes Care Initiative   | \$500,000 |
| <b>California Medical Association Foundation</b><br><i>Sacramento, California</i>                          | Extreme Makeover for the Solo and Small Group Practice                                   | \$498,750 |
| <b>Center for Medical Simulation</b><br><i>Cambridge, Massachusetts</i>                                    | Teaching Disclosure of Medical Errors in a High-Fidelity Simulation                      | \$249,572 |
| <b>Connecticut Center for Primary Care</b><br><i>Farmington, Connecticut</i>                               | "CareConcepts" Integrating Payor-Sponsored Disease Management into Primary Care Practice | \$301,987 |
| <b>Dallas Academy of Medicine</b><br><i>Dallas, Texas</i>  | PracticeNet Solutions  | \$986,529 |
| <b>Dana Farber Cancer Institute</b><br><i>Boston, Massachusetts</i>  | Improving Patient Safety in Ambulatory Care through Electronic Prescribing               | \$195,959 |
| <b>Emory University</b><br><i>Atlanta, Georgia</i>   | Chronic Care Unit for Arthritis – A Model of Care for a Public Hospital                  | \$453,168 |
| <b>Foundation of the American Association of Medical Society Executives</b><br><i>Milwaukee, Wisconsin</i> | Federation Initiative on Quality of Patient Care   | \$209,500 |
| <b>Florida Medical Foundation</b><br><i>Tallahassee, Florida</i>   | Expanding the Use of Health Information Technology in Florida Office-Based Practices     | \$482,488 |
| <b>Fund for Public Health in New York</b><br><i>New York, New York</i>                                     | Clinician's Toolbox and Self-Management Training Program                                 | \$499,997 |
| <b>Genesee Valley Medical Foundation</b><br><i>Rochester, New York</i>                                     | Transforming Primary Care Office Practices   | \$850,000 |
| <b>Hawaii Medical Foundation</b><br><i>Honolulu, Hawaii</i>  | Bridging the Adoption Gap  | \$900,000 |
| <b>Institute of Medicine &amp; Public Health of New Jersey</b><br><i>Lawrenceville, New Jersey</i>         | Electronic Feedback for Physician Management of Chronic Care                             | \$878,651 |



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| <b>Kaleida Health Women and Children's Hospital of Buffalo</b><br><i>Buffalo, New York</i>                  | Improving Patient Safety  | \$629,482   |
| <b>Louisiana State Medical Society Education &amp; Research Foundation</b><br><i>Baton Rouge, Louisiana</i> | Louisiana Disasters: Health Care Lessons Learned  | \$254,000   |
| <b>Massachusetts Health Quality Partners</b><br><i>Watertown, Massachusetts</i>                             | An Integrated Program to Improve the Clinical Quality and Experience of Care                                | \$499,733   |
| <b>Medical Association of Georgia Institute for Excellence in Medicine</b><br><i>Atlanta, Georgia</i>       | E-Technology Academy  | \$652,200   |
| <b>Medical Care Development</b><br><i>Augusta, Maine</i>  | Improving Clinical Office Practices and Outcomes  | \$758,493   |
| <b>Medical Education &amp; Scientific Foundation of New York</b><br><i>Lake Success, New York</i>           | Essentials of Pain Management   | \$495,576   |
| <b>Medical Society of Virginia Foundation</b><br><i>Fairfax, Virginia</i>                                   | Implementing the Electronic Medical Record in Physician Offices   | \$113,900   |
| <b>Middlesex Professional Services Foundation</b><br><i>Middletown, Connecticut</i>                         | Clinical Integration Project  | \$1,000,000 |
| <b>Nebraska Medical Foundation</b><br><i>Lincoln, Nebraska</i>  | Enhancing Clinical Practices through the Adoption of Health Information Technology                          | \$499,604   |
| <b>New York Chapter of the American College of Physicians</b><br><i>Albany, New York</i>                    | Mindful Communication: Bringing Intention, Attention, and Reflection to Clinical Practice                   | \$462,310   |
| <b>North Carolina Medical Society Foundation</b><br><i>Raleigh, North Carolina</i>                          | Sustainable Practice Management & Development Project   | \$1,000,000 |
| <b>Patient Safety Institute</b><br><i>Plano, Texas</i>  | Real-Time Clinical Information for Physicians   | \$985,000   |
| <b>Philadelphia Health Management Corporation</b><br><i>Philadelphia, Pennsylvania</i>                      | Philadelphia e-Quality  | \$377,506   |
| <b>South Carolina Medical Association Foundation</b><br><i>Columbia, South Carolina</i>                     | Targeting Racial Disparities in Treatment of Type II Diabetes   | \$500,000   |
| <b>Tennessee Foundation for Quality Patient Healthcare</b><br><i>Nashville, Tennessee</i>                   | CURB-IT: Controlling Utilization Rates by Informing and Teaching  | \$445,936   |
| <b>Texas Academy of Family Physicians Foundation</b><br><i>Austin, Texas</i>                                | Improving Diabetes Care through Implementation of Health Information Technology                             | \$305,608   |
| <b>Texas Medical Association Special Funds Foundation</b><br><i>Austin, Texas</i>                           | Ensuring Patient Safety through Health Information Technology   | \$1,000,000 |
| <b>University of Louisville Research Foundation</b><br><i>Louisville, Kentucky</i>                          | Exportation of Applied Expertise: An Intra-State Mechanism to Improve Quality & Safety in Specialty Surgery | \$141,768   |
| <b>University of North Dakota</b><br><i>Grand Forks, North Dakota</i>                                       | NORTHSTAR: A Rural Primary Network for Quality Improvement  | \$370,453   |
| <b>Washington State Medical Education &amp; Research Foundation</b><br><i>Seattle, Washington</i>           | Washington State Support for Quality Project  | \$1,000,000 |
| <b>West Virginia Medical Foundation</b><br><i>Charleston, West Virginia</i>                                 | Center for Electronic Health Best Practices   | \$186,500   |

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Tennessee Medical Association

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Washington State Medical Association

## Physicians' Foundation for Health Systems Excellence

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To learn more please visit our website,  
[www.physiciansfoundation.org](http://www.physiciansfoundation.org)