

# GIH BULLETIN

*Helping grantmakers*

*improve the health of all people*

GRANT  
MAKERS  
IN  
HEALTH

## PATHWAYS TO HEALTH

MARCH 16, 2015

This year's annual conference in Austin, Texas, was a multidimensional exploration of the theme *Pathways to Health*. Dynamic plenary speakers set the tone, beginning with Patrick Kennedy (The Kennedy Forum), who spoke passionately of mental health, mental illness, and addiction, and told his personal story of addiction and recovery. Kennedy urged funders to instill mental health into all of their grantmaking, and to treat mental health and addiction like any other chronic disease. Above all, he said, it is imperative to integrate mental health and addiction services into primary care.

Palliative care is another pathway to improving health care delivery. Diane Meier (The Center to Advance Palliative Care) forcefully illustrated how the U.S. health system's focus on expensive medical care, rather than quality social support, often harms the health of patients. She showed how palliative care services provide an additional level of support that significantly improves quality of life, especially for chronically ill children and adults. By keeping people out of hospitals, palliative care also reduces medical costs and improves survival.

Gail Christopher (The W.K. Kellogg Foundation), 2015 recipient of the Terrance Keenan Leadership Award in Health Philanthropy, has done pioneering work on racial healing as a pathway to positive social and personal health. Christopher described how the ideology of racial superiority and inferiority that has undergirded this country for hundreds of years must be openly addressed for genuine healing and racial equity to occur. The first step is recognizing the unconscious biases that shape our actions and attitudes, a difficult hurdle that the Kellogg Foundation has begun to take on internally.

On South Dakota's Pine Ridge reservation, community development is an important pathway to health. Nick Tilsen (Thunder Valley Community Development Corporation) spoke movingly of the historical marginalization of American Indians and of current challenges they face, including high rates of alcoholism, chronic illness, suicide, and unemployment. He described how Thunder Valley is transforming the Pine Ridge community—one of the poorest in the U.S.—by healing the spirit of the people. The focus is on building the capacity of the people, building leadership, and moving people from fear to hope.

In all four speeches, compassion, healing, history, and culture were paramount. These themes created a powerful framework for other conference activities that covered the spectrum of community, health care, and policy dynamics that affects people's health. At our largest annual gathering ever, local, state, and national funders exercised the creativity and vision that are health philanthropy's greatest strengths and helped to move the field forward.

*Faith Mitchell*

President and CEO  
Grantmakers In Health

## GIH NEWS

### IN MEMORIAM

The field of health philanthropy lost one of its greatest champions when Andy Hyman of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation passed away on February 25, 2015.

As a Senior Program Officer at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Andy focused on the foundation's efforts to expand coverage and secure meaningful access to health care for all Americans. Andy was an avid supporter of Grantmakers In Health. He was the driving force behind several of our most lauded health reform activities, including the State Grantwriting Assistance Fund, the Federal-State Implementation Program (F-SIP), and the Outreach and Enrollment Learning Community. Andy was a beloved son of Valerie and Allen Hyman, a devoted father to Lily and Nathaniel, and a loving brother to Joshua and his wife, Elizabeth, and Jonathan and his wife, Susan.

He was a smart, passionate, and innovative grantmaker, with a generous spirit and a great laugh. We will truly miss him.

Visit [www.gih.org](http://www.gih.org) for the latest Issue Focus and Views from the Field articles.

## NEW GRANTS & PROGRAMS

- .....
- **The Health Foundation of Central Massachusetts, Inc.** (Worcester) awarded a \$161,650 planning grant to the **Regional Environmental Council (REC)** (Worcester, MA) to partner with **Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce (MA)** in exploring the feasibility of establishing a **Worcester Regional Food Hub**. This project is funded through the foundation's **Health Care and Health Promotion Synergy Initiative**, which typically provides multiyear support totaling approximately \$2 million for these projects to be fully implemented and sustained. REC and the chamber's research and planning of a food hub will involve a number of other organizations, including Worcester County Food Bank, Northeast Organic Farming Association of Massachusetts, University of Massachusetts Stockbridge School of Agriculture, the Worcester Polytechnic Institute Center for Sustainable Food Systems, and the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission. Contact: Elaine Cinelli, 508.438.0009, ext. 2, [ecinelli@hfc.org](mailto:ecinelli@hfc.org).
  - **Mat-Su Health Foundation (MSHF)** (Wasilla, AK) has released the first of three installments in a series of reports that outline results of its ongoing **Behavioral Health Environmental Scan (BHES)**. BHES stems from a 2013 community health needs assessment that ranked mental and emotional health and substance abuse as Mat-Su Borough's most pressing health concerns. The current report focuses on the Mat-Su's crisis response system, which includes ambulances, law enforcement, and hospital emergency rooms. The scan found that alcohol and substance abuse is suspected in almost half of all Mat-Su suicides and homicides. It also revealed that the Mat-Su suicide rate is twice the national rate. Further, one in five local middle school students reported seriously considering suicide within 12 months of the reporting period. Concerning economic impact, in 2013, the Mat-Su Regional Medical Center Emergency Department served 2,391 patients with a behavioral health diagnosis, with charges totaling an estimated \$23 million. The report also offers 13 recommendations to address these issues, including implementing Medicaid expansion in Alaska, establishing more behavioral crisis response services locally, and providing trauma-informed training to first responders. The entire report is available on the foundation's website at [www.healthymatsu.org](http://www.healthymatsu.org). Contact: Robin Minard, 907.352.2892, [rminard@healthymatsu.org](mailto:rminard@healthymatsu.org).
  - **Paso del Norte Health Foundation** (El Paso, TX) awarded a collaborative of partners more than \$7 million over five years under the foundation's **Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL)** initiative to support **Paso del Norte Institute for Healthy Living (IHL)**. The overall goal of IHL is to develop innovative and sustainable solutions for healthy eating and active living in the Paso del Norte region. IHL will work with four partners to pursue the following goals of HEAL: increase fruit and vegetable consumption and improve portion control, increase physical activity and decrease sedentary behavior, create an environment that promotes healthy eating and active living without bias against obesity, and achieve long-term sustainability of IHL and HEAL. The four partners are: **Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, Paul L. Foster School of Medicine (El Paso); The University of Texas at El Paso; The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston; and University of Texas School of Public Health, El Paso Regional Campus**. Contact: Ida Ortegon, 915.544.7636, [iortegon@pdnhf.org](mailto:iortegon@pdnhf.org).
  - **Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI)** (Washington, DC) approved awards totaling more than \$64 million to fund five large patient-centered comparative effectiveness research (CER) studies that will answer critical clinical questions about care for cancer, back pain, and stroke. The awards range from \$7.75 million to \$14.5 million and will fund studies involving thousands of patients. The studies will address a range of issues, including whether breast cancer screening tailored to women's individual risks and preferences detects cancer and minimizes screening-associated harms as effectively or more effectively than annual screening, and whether a comprehensive package of transitional care and in-home support services is more effective than usual care at improving stroke survivors' functional abilities and preventing hospital readmissions. Each of the studies will engage key patient and stakeholder groups, such as national advocacy organizations, major professional societies and associations, and payers, in their research design and implementation. The five studies were selected from proposals submitted to PCORI's first funding announcement issued through its pragmatic clinical studies initiative last February. For more details on the awards, visit [www.pcori.org/research-results](http://www.pcori.org/research-results).
  - **Salem Health and Wellness Foundation** (Carneys Point, NJ) awarded three grants totaling \$58,000. **Salem Community College** (Penns Grove, NJ) received \$30,000 for scholarship opportunities in its **Allied Health and Nursing** programs. Funding will provide scholarships to 30 students. **Salem County Department of Health and Human Services (NJ)** will use a \$20,000 grant to provide glucose, blood pressure, and cholesterol screenings, as well as weight loss support. In addition, an \$8,000 grant to **New Jersey Commission for the Blind (Newark)** will support the provision of eye health screenings to preschoolers, migrant farmworkers, diabetes patients, and other vulnerable residents. Contact: Brenda Goins, 856.299.4460.
  - **Sierra Health Foundation's** (Sacramento, CA) **Center for Health Program Management** awarded nearly \$500,000 in grants through its San Joaquin Valley Health Fund to 27 organizations whose work addresses reducing health disparities among residents of the San Joaquin Valley. The fund is supported by Sierra Health Foundation, **The California Endowment** (Los Angeles), and the **Rosenberg Foundation** (San Francisco, CA). Among the grantees are: **California**

# GRANTMAKER FOCUS



MARCH 16, 2015

## Empire Health Foundation

1020 W. Riverside Avenue, Spokane, WA 99201  
 Phone: 509.315.1323 Email: admin@empirehealthfoundation.org  
 Website: www.empirehealthfoundation.org

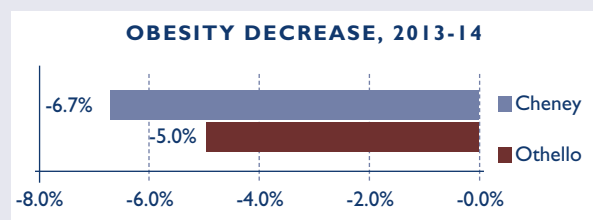
Formed in 2008 from the sale of a regional hospital system, Empire Health Foundation (EHF) is a private foundation whose purpose is to transform the foundation's seven-county service area into Washington state's healthiest region.

**Program Information:** EHF believes today's toughest social issues are complex dynamic systems. Accordingly, solutions must be multipronged adaptive solutions that rely on much more than "just writing a grant check and hoping." EHF is exploring an approach to philanthropy that it calls "Philanthropy 3.0." If v1.0 is reactive shotgun giving (numbers served and dollars granted), and v2.0 is "ivory tower" theory-of-change strategic plans that rarely move the dial, then v3.0 is "holding ourselves accountable" and "doing whatever it takes" to sustainably move the dial on health.

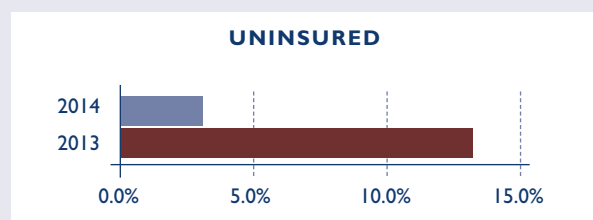
### ► Financial Information:

Total Assets: Approximately \$80 million (FY 2014)  
 Endowed Grants: \$4 million (FY 2014)  
 Additional Funding: Approximately \$14 million (FY 2015) in funding from public and private funding partners  
 Total Funds Governed: Approximately \$18 million (FY 2015) through four entities/subsidiaries

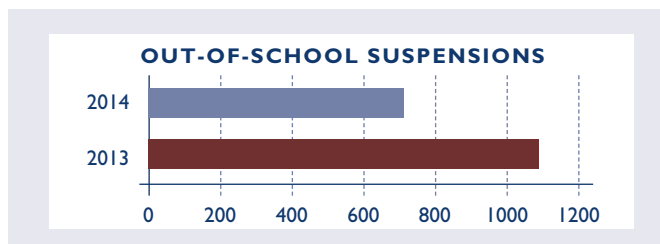
### ► Philanthropic Impact and Results:



- **Obesity Prevention** – Ten school districts have converted to healthy scratch cooking. Our region will double the number of meals impacted to over 3 million meals per year in the next three years. Of the first four districts, three of them will see measured improvement in obesity rates (\$500,000 per year).



- **Health Care Access** – EHF's work has helped reduce the percentage of uninsured persons in Spokane from 13.1 percent to 3 percent. EHF formed a collaborative entity to leverage the Affordable Care Act to increase access to health care (\$500,000 per year).



- **Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)** – EHF's efforts contributed to a 35 percent reduction in out-of-school suspensions in one year, through a multipronged ACEs-informed strategy at a partner high school. EHF's goal for the second year is to reduce all disciplinary incidents by 35 percent (\$150,000 per year).
- **ACEs (Foster Care Sector)** – EHF formed a collaborative new entity to implement performance-based contracting in child welfare in Washington state. It will manage approximately \$8 million in funding. EHF's goal is to reduce the number of children in the foster care system in eastern Washington by 50 percent (\$350,000 per year).
- **Capacity Building** – EHF has helped bring \$210 million in out-of-the-area funding to partners in our region and state, compared to \$11 million directly granted from our endowment over the same time period, with a 1,900 percent leverage rate (\$250,000 per year).

*"For all of us who work in philanthropy, imagine if our jobs depended upon whether or not the dial was moving? We would act like our pants were on fire! We would do 'whatever it takes' to create measurable and sustainable change."*

**Antony Chiang**  
 President



**Coalition for Rural Housing Project** (Sacramento) – \$20,000 to improve health outcomes through increased access to clean water, transit, education, health care, and other assets by informing the development of affordable housing in the San Joaquin Valley; **California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation** (Fresno) – \$20,000 to increase community advocacy for statewide solutions for health care for undocumented residents while raising awareness of federal immigrant policy related to Medi-Cal eligibility; **Focus Forward Fresno** (CA) – \$11,458 to improve community health and reduce poverty among youth in Fresno County’s child welfare system or juvenile justice system through community organizing to increase youth employment opportunities; opportunities; and **Act for Women and Girls Tulare County** (Visalia, CA) – \$10,000 to cultivate youth leaders in Tulare County to impact teen health outcomes, particularly for girls, by engaging 100 youth to educate and advocate for women’s health issues. Contact: Kari LaCosta, 916.922.4755, ext. 3332.

- **United Hospital Fund** (New York, NY) awarded five grants, totaling \$464,000, for projects to improve health care services in New York. **New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation** (HHC) (NY) will use a grant for \$144,000 toward efforts to identify redesign options for **HHC Options**, HHC’s financial assistance program, to improve and expand access to care for uninsured populations and to align the program design with other health system changes. **The City University of New York (CUNY) School of Public Health** was awarded \$100,000 to develop and pilot a student awareness campaign about depression, develop resources for students, and train and enlist 15 student Health Ambassadors to conduct outreach at CUNY’s three Bronx campuses. **Children’s Dental Health Project** (Washington, DC) will receive \$95,000 to address early childhood dental caries among low-income preschoolers in New York City. A grant of \$65,000 to **Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, Immigrant Health and Cancer Disparities Service** (New York, NY) will help the center implement and

evaluate strategies to improve the connection to and use of primary care services among New York State of Health marketplace enrollees, with specific focus on immigrants and the underserved. **Isabella Geriatric Center/Together on Diabetes-NYC** (NY) was awarded \$60,000 to augment the implementation of a plan for self-sustainability. Contact: Miles Finley, 212.494.0732, mfinley@uhfnyc.org.

**Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Foundation** (Owings Mills, MD) announced \$4 million in grants to support programs that meet basic needs of individuals, families, and communities. Among the grantees are: **Hebrew Home for the Aged at Riverdale** (NY) – \$950,000 over two years to support the **Weinberg Center for Elder Abuse, Prevention, Intervention, and Research**; **Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center Inc.** (Baltimore, MD) – \$200,000 over two years to support the **Children’s Medical Practice Improvement** program, which will expand and enhance family-centered medical home services, family health screenings, and interpreter services; **Baltimore City Health Department, Office on Aging and Care Services** (MD) – \$180,000 to support the renovation of Waxter Center, one of 13 city-owned senior centers, and to complete its senior-friendly, state-of-the-art exercise facility; **St. Ann’s Center for Children, Youth, and Families** (Hyattsville, MD) – \$75,000 over two years to support **Faith House** and **Hope House**, programs that serve homeless families in residential settings; **Tuerk House** (Baltimore, MD) – \$75,000 in general operating support for continuation of its substance abuse treatment and recovery programs. For more information, visit [www.hjweinbergfoundation.org](http://www.hjweinbergfoundation.org).

## SURVEYS, STUDIES & PUBLICATIONS

- **Milbank Memorial Fund** (New York, NY) has released *All Aboard: Engaging Self-Insured Employers in Multi-Payer Reform*, which reports on

findings from an assessment of a state-level, multipayer health care delivery system and provider payment reform project. Milbank Memorial Fund conducted the assessment in partnership with **Pacific Business Group on Health** (San Francisco, CA). Focusing on efforts in four states – Arkansas, Minnesota, Oregon, and Vermont – the report provides a general description of multipayer activity and examines the extent to which self-insured employers are participating in the kind of delivery system transformation envisioned by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) State Innovation Models (SIM) program. While each state has had success in moving toward more coordinated action across payers, particularly for primary care services, recruitment of employers with self-insured plans remains an ongoing challenge. Despite this, a key conclusion is that recruiting self-insured employers is both a worthwhile and attainable goal. The findings and recommendations of this report can be used by stakeholders looking to address employer recruitment challenges in future multipayer work. The report is available under the Publications section of the fund’s website, [www.milbank.org](http://www.milbank.org).

- **RCHN Community Health Foundation** (New York, NY) funded an analysis of the connection between community health centers and enrollees in the state-federal **Children’s Health Insurance Program** (CHIP). Findings were outlined in the issue brief, *Community Health Centers and Their Role for Patients Enrolled in the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP)*.<sup>2</sup> The analysis, which was conducted by researchers at the Geiger Gibson/RCHN Community Health Foundation Research Collaborative at Milken Institute School of Public Health at The George Washington University, shows that health centers served over 350,000 CHIP beneficiaries in 2013, representing 1 in 25 CHIP beneficiaries that year. In certain states, community health centers cared for 10 percent to 38 percent of patients enrolled in CHIP. The brief reports that in some states, CHIP coverage is derived through a Medicaid expansion. In these situations, health centers appear to play an

especially important role. For example, in North Carolina, health centers served more than 4,300 enrollees whose CHIP coverage was through Medicaid, but only 31 enrollees covered under the state's separate CHIP program. Congress is now considering whether to extend funding for CHIP, as well as whether to continue sustained funding for health centers. Contact: Susan Lamontagne, 631.899.3825.

## MEETINGS

### ■ Florida Blue Foundation

(Jacksonville) is presenting its **10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Sapphire Awards and Symposium**, April 22-23, 2015, in Weston, Florida. The two-day event includes national, regional, and Florida-based experts on a variety of issues and topics that include health, health care reform, innovation, childhood obesity, philanthropy and more. Among the speakers is **Dan Glickman, J.D.**, former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture; Vice President, Aspen Institute; and Executive Director of the **Aspen Institute Congressional Program**. He will share findings from the Institute of Medicine's work and will address the accelerating progress in obesity prevention across the nation. In addition, **Rachael A. Watman, M.S.W.**, Senior Program Officer at **John A. Hartford Foundation** (New York, NY), will discuss shifting demographics in today's workplace and in the community. The event will also feature a special performance by recording artist **José Feliciano**. This year's event marks the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Sapphire Awards, which recognize individuals, programs, and organizations for excellence and innovation in addressing community health issues. For more information and to register, visit the foundation's website, [www.floridabluefoundation.com](http://www.floridabluefoundation.com).

■ **Quantum Foundation** (West Palm Beach, FL) is partnering with **Modernizing Medicine** (Boca Raton, FL) and **Florida Atlantic University's** (Boca Raton) accelerator, **Tech Runway**, to stimulate health-related innovation in Palm Beach County, Florida, at a tech

weekend on March 28-29, 2015. Quantum Foundation will host its first hackathon, **Code4Good Palm Beach County**, giving engineers, designers, and entrepreneurs a hands-on environment to connect, build teams, and create a piece of software that enhances the quality of life in underserved communities. Participants will work together to create a technology solution, and then present their project to a panel of judges on the final day. There is a cash incentive for these teams to show up and put their talents to work. The top three teams will receive prizes ranging from \$5,000 to \$2,000, and the first-place team will have the opportunity to participate in building its solution into an actual working product. To learn more or to register as a participant, visit: [www.code4goodPBC.org](http://www.code4goodPBC.org). Contact: Nicholas Mohnacky, 561.373.0384, [nick@mohnackymarketing.com](mailto:nick@mohnackymarketing.com).

## PEOPLE

■ **Episcopal Health Foundation** (Houston, TX) announced four staff appointments. **Jennifer Herrera** is a new Program Officer. Before coming to the foundation, Ms. Herrera was Deputy Director of the **Community Health Leader Program** in Houston, Texas, for the **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation** (Princeton, NJ). She was previously Director of Prevention Programs at AIDS Services of Austin. **Suzanne Leahy, Ph.D.** has been appointed Evaluation Officer. She comes to the foundation after 17 years at OMNI Institute in Denver, Colorado, most recently serving as Vice President for seven years, following 10 years as Researcher and Director of Research and Evaluation. **W. Trent Pokorny**, who will serve as Grants Administrator, joins the foundation after serving as the **Veteran and Housing Services Program** Director/Grant Writer at Career & Recovery Resources in Houston. He previously was a Financial Advisor, Vice President, Account Officer, and Senior Partner for several large banks and financial services companies. **Sandra Wegmann**, the foundation's new Learning Officer, has

worked for the foundation in a consulting role, leading various special projects across all divisions and helping build the foundation's strategy. Previously she was Senior Manager of Strategic Initiatives at the Center for Houston's Future. Contact: Brian Sasser, 832.807.2575.

■ **Health Foundation of South Florida** (Miami) has added **J. Everett Wilson**, a partner at the national law firm Akerman, LLP, to its board of directors. As a partner at Akerman, Mr. Wilson represents health care providers and other entities involved in health care and health care insurance industries. With experience in several aspects of health law, he focuses primarily on issues relating to Medicare and Medicaid, regulatory compliance, provider operations, and managed care. His professional memberships include the American Health Lawyers Association and the Florida Bar's Health Law Section. He serves on the board of the South Florida chapters of the American Red Cross and the Make-A-Wish Foundation. In addition the foundation announced the election of **Loreen Chant** as Chair of its board of directors. Ms. Chant, a recognized community leader, is President and CEO of Easter Seals South Florida. Prior to this position, Ms. Chant had a 22-year career with Johnson & Wales University, most recently serving as President of its North Miami Campus. Contact: Shari Gantman, 305.374.9199.

■ **The W.K. Kellogg Foundation** (WKKF) (Battle Creek, MI) has hired **Khalilah Burt Gaston** as a Program Officer. Ms. Gaston will work on the foundation's Michigan portfolio statewide, with particular emphasis in Detroit. She comes to WKKF after serving as Executive Director for the Vanguard Community Development Corporation in Detroit, where she led efforts to redefine the organization's mission, streamline programmatic priorities, and strengthen the organization's financial sustainability. Contact: Dana Linnane, 269.969.2301, [dana.linnane@wkkf.org](mailto:dana.linnane@wkkf.org).

■ **Palm Healthcare Foundation** (West Palm Beach, FL) announced the hiring

of **Mary Robosson** as its Vice President of Philanthropy. As such, she will work closely with the President/CEO and the senior management team to build a culture of philanthropy that allows for growth of the foundation's assets and available grant dollars. Ms. Robosson was previously Marketing Manager for PGA of America's PGA Seniors' Championship, Senior Director of Development and Sponsorship Administrator for the Raymond F. Kravis Center for the Performing Arts, and Senior Director of Development, Marketing, and Education for the Palm Beach Opera. Most recently, she served as Principal for a national nonprofit consulting firm based in North Carolina. Contact: Lilly Leas, 561.310.4976, [lilly.leas@gmail.com](mailto:lilly.leas@gmail.com).

## OTHER NEWS

- **The Kresge Foundation** (Troy, MI) announced refinements to the grantmaking strategy for its **Health Program**. These changes are congruent with

external changes in public health, such as the ongoing implementation of the Affordable Care Act, as well as what the foundation has learned through several years of grantmaking. The refinement in the Health Program is reflected in new names for its two focus areas: Developing Healthy Places and Accelerating Community-Centered Approaches to Health. Developing Healthy Places adds emphasis on place-based, community-driven aspects of efforts to improve healthy housing and neighborhoods, food systems that benefit low-income neighborhoods, and equitable land-use and transportation. Accelerating Community-Centered Approaches to Health calls on all participants in the broader health system—hospitals, clinics, providers, payers, and others—to work together in addressing the social and physical conditions that affect health. Through these two areas, the foundation's Health Program will continue its work toward helping communities overcome economic and social disadvantages. For more information, visit [www.kresge.org](http://www.kresge.org) and select "Health."

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