

GIH

*Helping grantmakers**improve the health of all people*

BULLETIN

APRIL 16, 2012

NEW GRANTS &
PROGRAMS

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- **Austin-Bailey Health and Wellness Foundation** (Canton, OH) approved grants totaling \$189,250 to eight non-profit organizations located in Holmes, Stark, Tuscarawas, and Wayne counties in Ohio. Among the grantees are: **Mercy Medical Center** (Canton) – \$100,000 to add a dental suite at the new primary care center at St. Paul Square; **Prescription Assistance Network** (Canton) – \$50,000 to provide medication access for low-income, uninsured, or underinsured persons; **Tuscarawas Clinic for the Working Uninsured** (Dover) – \$15,000 for partial funding of a part-time nurse practitioner; **Western Stark Free Clinic** (Massillon) – \$15,000 in operating support for this free medical clinic for low-income persons; and **Children’s Dyslexia Center** (Canton) – \$5,000 to support the center’s dyslexia remediation program. In addition, the foundation provided \$4,000 scholarships to students at **Aultman College** (Canton); **Kent State University, Stark**; **Kent State University at Tuscarawas** (New Philadelphia); **Malone University** (Canton); **Stark State College** (North Canton); and **Walsh University** (North Canton). Contact: Don Sultzbach, 330.580.2380.
 - **Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota Foundation** (Eagan) announced the launch of the **Connect for Health Challenge**, a new grantmaking initiative that will award up to \$500,000 to eligible nonprofit organizations, schools, and local units of government to

support efforts that strengthen social connections in low-income communities across Minnesota. Through the Connect for Health Challenge, as many as 20 grants of up to \$20,000 each will be awarded. One grant of up to \$100,000 will be determined by Minnesotans in a statewide vote. The initiative will engage people through InCommons, an innovative and growing community-based initiative that connects Minnesotans face-to-face and on-line so they can find and share credible tools, knowledge, and resources to address social issues. Types of projects that build or strengthen social connections could include, but are not limited to, community events, neighborhood gatherings, gathering places, community dialogues, participatory arts, local volunteering, multicultural projects, intergenerational activities, and more. Contact: Julie Eastling, 651.662.6574, julie_a_eastling@bluecrossmn.com.

- **The Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation** (Washington, DC) awarded \$655,000 to 11 local organizations addressing health and environmental issues. The following grantees received funding for general operating support: **Planned Parenthood** (Washington, DC) – \$300,000; **Alexandria Neighborhood Health Services** (VA) – \$40,000 outright and \$35,000 as a 1:1 match; **Arlington Free Clinic** (VA) – \$50,000 outright and \$25,000 as a 1:1 match; **Samaritan Inns** (Washington, DC) – \$50,000; **Hope Connections for Cancer Support** (Bethesda, MD) – \$40,000; **Wendt Center for Loss and Healing** (Washington, DC) – \$30,000; **Crossroads Community Food Network** (Takoma Park, MD) – \$25,000; and

GIHNEWS

GIH TERRANCE KEENAN
INSTITUTE NOMINATIONS DUE
APRIL 29

Don’t forget to submit nominations GIH’s **Terrance Keenan Institute for Emerging Leaders in Health Philanthropy**. Participants will spend two days with seasoned leaders from the field of health philanthropy, focusing on leadership development, mentoring, and building collegial connections. Topics will reflect themes inspired by philanthropy leader and visionary Terrance Keenan, including leadership, innovation, taking risks, and the creative deployment of resources.

The program will take place October 2-3, 2012, in Washington, DC. Eligible nominees must be active grantmakers with a foundation working in health or health care, and under the age of 45. They must be nominated by the president and CEO or executive director of their respective foundations.

Nominations are due April 29. Visit www.gih.org for more information. Questions may be directed to Kate Treanor at ktreanor@gih.org.

Visit www.gih.org for the latest Issue Focus and Views from the Field articles.

Alzheimer's Association, National Capital Area (Fairfax, VA) – \$10,000. Other grantees include: **McLendon Center** (Washington, DC) – \$30,000 to support its rehabilitation program for mentally ill adults; and **Washington Home and Community Hospices** (DC) – \$10,000 to support the **Hospice Caregiver's Relief** program. For more information, visit www.cafritzfoundation.org and select "Recent Grants."

- **The California Endowment** (Los Angeles) announced \$7.5 million in funding for the second year of its **Program-Related Investments** (PRI) initiative, through which six California-based organizations will receive low-interest loans. In selecting the winning proposals, the endowment and its PRI team looked for organizational strength and stability, geographical diversity, and a focus on innovative approaches to promoting health and wellness. Among the recipients are: **Vista Community Clinic** – \$2 million to be used toward the expansion of its existing Vale Terrace clinic capacity by 115 percent, which will include an expanded Women's Center and add 24 exam rooms for pediatric and family primary care; **Capital Link: Community Health Center Capital Fund, Inc.** (San Luis Obispo) – \$1 million to help make loans to federally qualified health centers, health centers, and community clinics that are engaged in providing, improving, and/or sustaining healthy lifestyles for uninsured and low-income individuals and families; and **La Maestra Family Clinic, Inc.** (City Heights) – \$550,000 to help build the new Generations Community Center, which will run programs for both youth and seniors of City Heights, a *Building Healthy Communities* site with more 90,000 residents, many of whom are recently settled refugees and immigrants from over 60 countries with unique health and well-being needs. Contact: Jeff Okey, 213.928.8622, jokey@calendow.org.
- **The Colorado Trust** (Denver) announced the launch of a public campaign to help inform and engage Coloradans about important health cov-

erage and care issues statewide. Funded by the trust, **Project Health Colorado** builds on the work of several grantee partners to foster awareness, understanding, and, ultimately, support for changes that will help achieve access to health for all Coloradans. As part of the campaign, television, radio, newspaper, digital, and billboard advertisements will run across the state, posing questions about health care and encouraging Coloradans to go to ProjectHealthColorado.org, which offers a shared forum for Coloradans to offer their opinions and join a live discussion about health care issues. Grassroots outreach and social media will also help engage Coloradans to ask questions and suggest solutions for how to make health care work better for them and others. The ProjectHealthColorado.org website also features commentaries and answers from a range of experts. Contact: Christie McElhinney, 303.539.3147, christie@coloradotruster.org.

- **The Horizon Foundation** (Columbia, MD) announced intended funding for local projects that reduce consumption of sugar-sweetened beverages by children and their families; promote healthful eating, physical activity, and other positive lifestyle changes by at-risk populations; increase access to health care for at-risk populations; and support nonprofit health and human service organizations in addressing social determinants of health in the community. The foundation anticipates making grants of \$50,000 to \$150,000 to local nonprofit organizations. For more information, visit www.thehorizonfoundation.org. Contact: Rosimar Melendez, 410.715.0311, rmelendez@thehorioznfoundation.org.
- **Maine Health Access Foundation** (MeHAF) (Augusta) has awarded \$47,500 in grants to continue its support of three local nonprofits that are encouraging better health in their communities through programs that introduce and connect people to fresh foods and physical activity. **Focus on Agriculture in Rural Maine Schools** (FARMS) (Damariscotta) will receive an additional \$20,000 to continue teaching school

children throughout Central Lincoln County where their food comes from and how to prepare it. MeHAF will support FARMS' ongoing efforts to shift school nutrition policy to benefit the more than 1,000 school children in the district. **Healthy Peninsula** (Sedgwick) was awarded \$20,000 to reach parents and families with information about the benefits of healthy food and to create more convenient locations to purchase fresh foods. MeHAF funding will enable Healthy Peninsula to involve community organizations and members that focus on school children and families. **Rangeley Lakes Heritage Trust and EcoVenture** (Rangeley) will use a \$7,500 grant to develop a financially sustainable plan for its expanded summer camp for kids. They will work with two nonprofit partners to evaluate how they can collaborate to offer area children year-round physical activity and nutrition-based programming. Contact: Len Bartel, 207.620.8266, ext. 107, lbartel@mehaf.org.

- **Medica Foundation** (Minnetonka, MN) awarded \$2.5 million in grants to 104 organizations. **Mental Health Resource** (St. Paul) received \$300,000 for its **Intensive Community-Based Service** program (ICBS). The ICBS program provides intensive case management services for high-risk adults with a chronic mental illness and/or substance abuse problem. **St. David's Center** (Minnetonka) was awarded \$250,000 to leverage its clinical expertise serving young children, as well as experience improving child, family, and provider outcomes through collaborative partnerships, for the purpose of initiating community-based early intervention services to young children with behavioral health issues and their families, as well as increase capacity within their school and childcare settings to meet their needs. **Children's Dental Service** (Moorhead) will use a grant of \$100,000 to expand its school-based dental services program into the Moorhead and Fargo regions to include a full range of comprehensive, culturally targeted dental services, including both preventive and restorative treatment. **City of Lakes Nordic Ski Foundation** (Minneapolis) was awarded \$100,000 to start its **Loppet Adventure**

Program at the Anwatin School. The year-round program is designed to introduce and inspire children from all backgrounds to adopt lifetime physical activities. Contact: Greg Bury, 952.992.8437, greg.bury@medica.com.

- **The New York Community Trust** (NY) awarded approximately \$1.5 million to support local programs that address health care and related services to residence of New York City. Among the grantees are: **Cancer Center** – \$800,000 for financial and education about benefits for poor, minority, and undocumented cancer patients; **Coordinated Behavioral Care** – \$175,000 to manage care for people with health, mental health, and substance abuse problems; **Community Health Care Association of New York State** – \$150,000 to recruit and train clinicians, frontline staff, and administrators for community health centers; **United Hospital Fund of New York** – \$150,000 to implement and evaluate innovative approaches to delivering effective, patient-centered, cost-efficient health care; **God's Love We Deliver** – \$100,000 to provide meals and nutrition education to cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy or radiation; and **Joan and Sanford I. Weill Medical College of Cornell University** – \$100,000 to train hospital staff to communicate with families and patients about end-of-life care. More information about these and other grants is available in the April 2012 edition of the trust's newsletter available at www.nycommunitytrust.org.
- **The Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust** (Winston-Salem, NC) and the **North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center** (Raleigh) announced grants through its **Rural Hope** initiative, which aims to spur economic activity in the health care sector while improving the availability and quality of health care services in rural communities. Last year, the trust awarded the center a \$1 million grant as part of the initiative, and the center in turn has awarded grants to the nine clinics. Among the grantees are: **Cherokee County Health Department** (Andrews, NC) – \$200,000 to build an addition to the health department's facility in

Murphy; **Bakersville Community Medical Clinic** (NC) – \$151,600 to build three new exam rooms, a chiropractic treatment room, check-in area, and restrooms; **Tyrrell County Rural Health Association** (Columbia, NC) – \$142,000 to purchase furnishings, an x-ray machine, and a heating and air conditioning system for new exam rooms planned at the clinic; and **Piedmont Health Services** (Prospect Hill, NC) – \$67,000 to buy a wheelchair-equipped van for the Caswell County clinics. Piedmont Health operates six community health centers. Contact: Garnet Bass, 919.250.4314, gbass@ncruralcenter.org.

■ **Rhode Island Foundation**

(Providence) announced that Blue Cross Blue & Shield of Rhode Island, an original foundation partner in the **Rhode Island Educational Loan Repayment Program for Primary Care Providers**, has made an additional \$350,000 grant to the program. The program was established in 2009 to ensure a stable and adequate supply of primary care providers in Rhode Island and is designed to recruit new physicians to the state. The loan forgiveness program is part of the foundation's **Fund for a Healthy Rhode Island**, established in 2008. Loans are administered through the Rhode Island Student Loan Authority. The maximum loan amount is \$80,000 for physicians over four years; for nurse practitioners and physician assistants, the maximum loan amount is \$40,000 over four years. Contact: Deborah Baum, 401.427.4055, dbaum@rifoundation.org.

■ **Rose Community Foundation**

(Denver) awarded 240 grants totaling more than \$3.1 million. Among the grantees are: **Volunteers of America Colorado Branch** (Denver) – \$230,000 over two years to provide home-delivered meals and in-home safety support services for older adults; **St. Anthony Health Foundation** (Lakewood) – \$172,500 over 18 months for the **Senior Benefits Program** to assist older adults and their caregivers in obtaining public benefits; **Mental Health America of Colorado** (Denver) – \$120,000 over two years to promote the understanding

of mental disorders, expand access to services, and improve systems of care; **Colorado Coalition for the Medically Underserved** (Denver) – \$100,000 over two years to support efforts to ensure that health care is available to all people; **Colorado Children's Healthcare Access Program** (Aurora) – \$94,500 for services that promote access to health care for children on Medicaid and Child Health Plan Plus (Colorado Nonprofit Development Center serves as fiscal sponsor); and **Boulder County Public Health Department** – \$85,000 to support a teen pregnancy prevention program for younger siblings of teen parents. Contact: Marci Hladik, 303.398.7445, mhladik@rcfdenver.org.

■ **Staunton Farm Foundation**

(Pittsburgh, PA) awarded grants in the amount of \$812,000 to improve the lives of people who live with mental illness and/or substance use disorders. Grants include \$150,000 to the **Andy Warhol Museum** (Pittsburgh, PA), in collaboration with Allegheny General Hospital, for a program to address facial recognition and emotional cues in children with post-traumatic stress disorder; \$147,000 to the **Entertainment Industries Council** (Reston, VA) for Media Awareness and the Media & Mental Health Awards; \$150,000 to **Mercy Behavioral Health** (Pittsburgh, PA) to integrate primary care into a behavioral health facility; and \$150,000 to the **University of Pittsburgh** (PA) for the **Behavioral Health Fellows** program, to train behavioral health managers in basic management and business principles. Contact: Joni Schwager, 412.281.8020, jschwager@stauntonfarm.org.

- **UniHealth Foundation** (Los Angeles, CA) awarded nine grants totaling in \$1.7 million to organizations that benefit residents of Los Angeles and northern Orange counties. Among the grantees are: **Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital** (Whittier) - \$749,951 over three years to support the development and implementation of a Palliative Care and Chronic Disease Management Track for the Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital Family Medicine Residency Training Program; **Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital** (Valencia)

– \$150,530 to support specialized training for clinical staff who will care for newborns in the hospital’s new Neonatal Intensive Care Unit; **Downtown Women’s Center** (Los Angeles) – \$150,000 over two years to support the launch of a comprehensive **Breast Health and Cancer Support Program** that will include outreach, education, mammograms, health services, and breast cancer support and management; and **Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry of the University of Southern California** (Los Angeles) – \$150,000 over two years to support the clinic’s provision of oral health care to the homeless in central Los Angeles. Contact: www.unihealthfoundation.org.

- **United Health Foundation** (Minnetonka, MN) awarded a \$50,000 grant to the City of Milwaukee Health Department (WI) for the **Cribs for Kids** program. Funding will help provide cribs to families in need and raise awareness of safe sleep practices. Cribs for Kids also provides families with Pack ‘n Plays to help reduce deaths due to Sudden Infant Death Syndrome and unsafe sleep practices. Program participants include Medicaid-eligible parents who are residents of Milwaukee. For more information, visit www.unitedhealthfoundation.org.

U.S. Department of Agriculture (Washington, DC) announced \$1 million in cost-sharing from the U.S. Forest Service to enhance children’s programs in 18 states. Programming is aligned with First Lady Michelle Obama’s **Let’s Move!** Initiative, which focuses on solving the problem of childhood obesity, a segment of which aims to improve physical and mental health through outdoor activities. **Children’s Forest in the City Forest Service Eastern Region** (Milwaukee, WI) will use \$50,000 to create Milwaukee Rotary Centennial arboretum, a 40-acre space that will include a two-mile trail loop with wheelchair access to the Milwaukee River. **Angoon Outdoor Skills Initiative, Tongass National Forest** (Juneau, AK) will apply \$33,810 toward engaging youth and families in outdoor nature-based activities in a remote Alaska

Native community. **The EVOLVE Project, Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest** (Garden City, UT) will use funding of \$17,804 to develop an outdoor-based youth leadership course for teens. The project’s goals are to increase participation in outdoor recreation among ethnic American teens, foster awareness among families, and provide access to outdoor-oriented career opportunities. For more information, call 202.205.1134.

- **VNA Foundation** (Chicago, IL) awarded \$346,000 to eight organizations with programs that address medically underserved residents of greater Chicago. Among the grantees are: **Circle Family Healthcare Network** (Chicago) – \$60,000 to support the **MHT Program** team of doctors, nurses, and outreach workers who travel to locations frequented by the homeless on Chicago’s West Side, and provide critically needed preventive and urgent health care services; **Goldie’s Place** (Chicago) – \$50,000 to support the continued operations of its volunteer and student run **Dental Care Program**, which serves the homeless; **Communities in Schools of Chicago** – \$40,000 to connect students to a range of essential health care services and to explore the role of school nurses in Chicago public schools; **Porchlight Counseling Services** (Evanston) – \$35,000 toward counseling services that improve the physical and mental health of college student sexual assault survivors; and **Renaissance Social Services, Inc.** (Chicago) – \$27,000 to help fund a full-time psychiatric nurse for one year in conjunction with funding from a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. For more information, visit www.vnafoundation.net.

SURVEYS, STUDIES & PUBLICATIONS

- **Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation** (Boston) released the final installment of its Health Reform Toolkit Series, *Effective*

Education, Outreach, and Enrollment Approaches for Populations Newly Eligible for Health Coverage. This toolkit is part of a compilation that uses lessons learned from Massachusetts’ implementation of health reform to help other states implement elements of the Affordable Care Act. Each toolkit includes a written guide, as well as a variety of primary source documents and other work products from Massachusetts’ health reform implementation experience. This toolkit was developed in collaboration with the Executive Office of Health and Human Services, Office of Medicaid, and the Massachusetts Health Insurance Connector Authority. Development of the toolkit series was funded in part by **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation** (Princeton, NJ). The toolkit is available at www.bluecrossfoundation.org/Health-Reform/Lessons/Toolkit-Series.aspx.

- **Child Health and Development Institute of Connecticut, Inc.** (CHDI) (Farmington) published the issue brief *Driving Quality Improvement in Child Mental Health Services: The Performance Improvement Center*, which examines the Performance Improvement Center (PIC) model as means to improve the quality and effectiveness of community-based child mental health care programs in Connecticut. The model, which was developed by CHDI’s Connecticut Center for Effective Practice in collaboration with the Department of Children and Families, is a rigorous quality improvement model that systematically monitors, evaluates, and continuously improves child mental health treatment quality and outcomes. The PIC model implements a comprehensive quality improvement system and can be replicated and applied to interventions that require enhancements in any of four areas: standardized practice development, standardized training, improving access and service quality, and conducting outcomes evaluation. For more information, visit www.chdi.org/pic-impact. Contact: Jeff Vanderploeg, 860.679.542, jvanderploeg@uchc.edu.

- **The Commonwealth Fund** (New York, NY) released an issue brief that

outlines a study analyzing states' activity pursuant to insurance market reform provisions in the Affordable Care Act. ***Implementing the Affordable Care Act: State Action on Early Market Reform*** reveals that 49 states and the District of Columbia have already taken steps to enforce several of these laws by passing legislation, issuing regulations, or initiating some other action. These early reforms, which went into effect in 2010, include new rules banning insurers' lifetime limits on benefits and requiring insurers with dependent coverage to insure young adults up to age 26. Analysts assessed state activity on 10 early reforms, including those known collectively as the Patient's Bill of Rights. By January 1, 2012, 23 states and the District of Columbia had taken new legislative or regulatory action on at least one of these reforms, and an additional 26 states had promoted compliance with the reforms. The brief and an interactive map are available on-line at the publications section of www.commonwealthfund.org.

Grantmakers for Effective

Organizations (GEO) (Washington, DC) released ***Is Grantmaking Getting Smarter?***, which analyzes findings from a survey of 755 grantmaking foundations in the United States. GEO conducts this survey every three years to examine trends in the key funding practices that help nonprofits strengthen their impact. This year's survey results point to a link between stakeholder engagement practices and grantmakers' funding decisions. Grantmakers that listened to and learned with their grantees and other stakeholders were more likely to increase multiyear, general operating and capacity-building support. Foundations that come together with their peers to learn about better ways to support nonprofits are also more likely to engage in practices linked to smarter grantmaking and better results. The publication is available at www.geofunders.org. Contact J. McCray, 202.898.1823, mccray@geofunders.org.

- **The Health Foundation of Central Massachusetts** (Worcester) announced the final evaluation report on the **Home Again** initiative, a collaborative of home-

less service providers involved in the planning and pilot testing of a Housing First-type approach to addressing chronic homelessness in Worcester, Massachusetts. The project, which was modeled and evaluated over the course of 45 months had a primary goal of reducing the number of adults in Worcester who were chronically homeless, or on the verge of becoming chronically homeless. The report provides detailed information about the methodology and results of the nearly four-year outcome evaluation. The report outlines several key findings. At baseline, 100 percent of the participants in Home Again were homeless, and at the six-month follow-up 98 percent were housed. Moreover, Home Again participants were 2.5 times as likely as individuals receiving Standard Care to achieve and maintain housing over six months. In addition, the mental health symptoms of Home Again participants significantly decreased from baseline to the 24- and 30-month follow-up. Contact: Elaine Cinelli, 508.438.0009, ext. 2, ecinelli@hfc.org.

- **W.K. Kellogg Foundation** (Battle Creek, MI) released the results of an extensive review of literature on clinical outcomes for children receiving care from dental therapists. ***A Review of the Global Literature on Dental Therapists: In the Context of the Movement to Add Dental Therapists to the Oral Health Workforce in the United States*** incorporates the results of a literature review of more than 1,100 reports documenting the work of dental therapists in 54 countries. The study found evidence that dental therapists can effectively expand access to dental care that is competent, safe, and effective. According to the report, countries using dental therapists have been effective in improving access and care provided to children. For example, 96 percent of school-age children in New Zealand and 96 percent of elementary school children in Malaysia are enrolled in school dental services that employ dental therapists to provide care. In the United States, dental therapists practice in Alaska and Minnesota; however, other states are exploring the use of these providers to expand access to needed dental care.

The full report is available at www.wkkf.org/knowledge-center. Contact: Mary Darby, 718.499.0806, mdarby@burnesscommunications.com.

- **The Kresge Foundation** (Troy, MI) funded the publication of a report that examines how community health centers (CHCs) across the nation are addressing the social, economic, and physical conditions that contribute to poor health among the patients they serve. ***Community Health Centers: Leveraging the Social Determinants of Health*** looks at CHCs' roles in dealing with such diverse problems as diabetes and hypertension, lead poisoning, parasitic worm infections, and homelessness. It includes a database of 176 initiatives launched by 52 CHCs, as well as 10 case studies. The study marks the first time researchers have systematically compiled and examined data about how CHCs address the social determinants of health. CHCs have focused on improving social and economic conditions, such as family and social support; access to healthy foods, recreational space, and physical activity; adult and health education; community safety; housing; and initiatives to improve air and water quality. They also routinely help patients gain access to social services and legal aid. The report is available at www.altfutures.org/leveragingSDH. Contact: Cynthia Shaw, 248.643.9630, cbshaw@kresge.org.
- **The Otho S.A. Sprague Memorial Institute** (Chicago, IL) released ***The First 100 Years***, which chronicles the evolution of the organization since its first board meeting in 1911. The report provides information on the institute's namesake and the circumstances that lead to the organization's establishment. The document also recounts the institute's early program of research focused on cancer, the effects of chemotherapy on tuberculosis, industrial diseases, and the metabolism of carbohydrates affecting diabetes, to its more recent initiatives that address obesity prevention and oral health. To view the full report, visit www.spragueinstitute.org/id2.html and click on the title at the top of the page. Contact: James Alexander, 847.475.0034.

PEOPLE

Ovarian Cancer Research Fund (OCRF) (New York, NY) added two new members to its board of directors: **Mara Sandler** and **Brooke Goodman Cohen**. Ms. Sandler will serve as the first chair of the fund's program committee. She has served on other nonprofit boards, including president of the Women's Division of Albert Einstein College of Medicine. In addition, Ms. Sandler has also volunteered with the organization working on OCRF's **Woman to Woman Program**. Ms. Cohen brings her diverse background as well as her experience as an active board member for several nonprofit organizations to the OCRF board. She will be a member of OCRF's inaugural Super Saturday steering committee and will help achieve the organizational mission to grow the multimillion dollar annual fundraising event. Contact: Sabrina Valvo, 212.268.1002, svalvo@ocrf.org.

- **Universal Health Care Foundation of Connecticut** (Meriden) announced that **Juan A. Figueroa** will step down as president in September 2012. Mr. Figueroa, who has led the foundation since 2003, will continue to direct the foundation and its stakeholders over the next several months through an extensive strategic planning process to determine the direction and focus of the next generation of the foundation's work. Under

Mr. Figueroa's leadership, the foundation provided seed funds for innovative programs such as the Urban Track Program at the University of Connecticut Medical School; health equity research led by the Connecticut Association of Directors of Health; and several nonprofit new media ventures, including the Connecticut Health Investigative Team and the New Haven Independent. The board of directors also announced that **Frances G. Padilla**, the foundation's executive vice president, will succeed Mr. Figueroa. Contact: Alice Straight, 203.639.0550, ext. 309.

Gartrell Wright, former Grantmakers In Health (GIH) staff member, passed away unexpectedly last month. He served as GIH's office technology specialist for several years, with responsibility for the databases and information systems that make our work possible. Gartrell was a staunch believer in the power of technology and advocated for philanthropy to embrace and adopt new technologies, as well as social media. In his words, "...technology embraces hope, welcomes change, and provides optimism... [it] provides the tools and resources that produce an obtainable mission for an organization, an obtainable goal with measurable results." He is missed.

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