

GRANTMAKER FOCUS

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IN
HEALTH

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The Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey

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At the turn of the 20th century, local members of the Jewish community founded Newark Beth Israel Medical Center in response to anti-Semitism, which prevented Jewish doctors from practicing at other area hospitals. When "the Beth" was sold to Barnabas Health in 1996, the proceeds of that sale were used to create The Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey (HFNJ), a private, independent foundation. Members of the hospital's board became the founding members of the new HFNJ board, led by Lester Z. Lieberman, Chair.

Since its inception, the foundation has been dedicated to carrying out the Jewish imperatives of *tzedaka* (righteousness; charity) and *tikkun olam* (repairing the world) through philanthropy. The foundation works to reduce disparities and increase access to quality health care for two target populations: low-income, underserved residents of Newark and the surrounding underserved communities; and the most vulnerable members of the Jewish community of MetroWest, which includes Essex, Morris, and Union counties. To date, the foundation has awarded more than \$120 million to accomplish that goal.

Program Information: The foundation funds health care institutions and community organizations that work to improve the physical and behavioral health and wellness of our target communities and those that work to improve health literacy and connect people to quality care. Funded programs work with people of all ages, and those with special needs. The foundation places a special emphasis on humanism in health care, recognizing that culturally competent, patient-centered care is crucial to optimal health outcomes.

► **Financial Information:**

Total Assets: \$168 million (FY 2014)

Amount Dedicated to Health-Related Grants: \$7.3 million (FY 2014)

► **Special Initiatives and/or Representative Health and Human Services Grants:**

- **HFNJ Affordable Care Act (ACA) Outreach and Enrollment Initiative** – The foundation awarded multiple grants from 2013 to 2015 to educate the public and connect uninsured, low-income area residents to insurance coverage through the ACA marketplace or New Jersey's expanded Medicaid program. This is an ongoing initiative (approximately \$1 million over 3 years).

- **Community Health Worker Pilot Project at the Jordan & Harris Community Health Center** – Through this project, HFNJ provided funding from 2011 to 2015 to establish and support the identification, training, and work of community health workers in one of Newark's most isolated and lowest-income housing developments. The project is run by an advance practice nurse from Rutgers School of Nursing and a physician from University Hospital (\$689,500 over 5 years).
- **The Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey Breast Health Center at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center** – Women in Newark experience higher rates of breast cancer and are often diagnosed at a later stage of the disease than those in other communities. Opened in October 2015, the center now provides state-of-the-art screening, diagnosis, and treatment planning in a spa-like, patient-centered environment to ensure the best treatment for the women (and men) of Newark and the surrounding areas (\$1.3 million in 2015).

Most Pressing Health Issues in the Community

You Serve: *"Since its inception, The Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey has maintained an unwavering commitment to improving outcomes for children, spearheading special initiatives and grants fostering healthy development of the whole child. Major funding has supported school-based services, early childhood behavioral health, dental and vision care, and specialized services to improve outcomes for fragile babies and children with special needs. As health care systems change in response to the ACA, and HFNJ has funded pilots of new models of care, we have come to realize that most of those changes involve the delivery of health care and maintenance of wellness for adults. It is our hope that our new Integrated Pediatric Primary Care Initiative will stimulate changes that significantly improve the health and well-being of children."*

Marsha I. Atkind
Executive Director & CEO

