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Baptist Healing Trust

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Baptist Healing Trust (BHT) is a private health legacy foundation created in 2002 from proceeds of the sale of the Baptist Hospital System to Ascension Health. BHT's mission is the sacred work of fostering healing and wholeness for vulnerable populations through strategic investing, philanthropy, and advocacy. Funds are committed to support nonprofits in a 40-county region of middle Tennessee that are dedicated to providing compassionate health care, especially to those who are vulnerable or underserved.

Program Information: Beyond operating as a funding agency, BHT believes in the importance of meeting health needs and providing human services with a balance of excellence in skill and great compassion. To this end, BHT provides support by offering retreats, workshops, and leadership development programs. BHT's work focuses on three sectors within the community: vulnerable, low-wealth individuals; leaders within nonprofit agencies; and first-line caregivers. Grantmaking and programs address the following priorities: healing from abuse, neglect, and violence; recovery from alcohol and drug addiction; physical health; mental health; system change advocacy related to improving access to care; educating health care professionals in compassionate care; and supporting nonprofit agencies in creating cultures of compassionate care.

► Financial Information:

Total Assets: \$120 million (FY 2014)

Amount Dedicated to Health-Related Grants: \$4.9 million (FY14)

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

- **Advocacy Grants Program** – In an effort to be more holistic in its grantmaking, BHT is launching an initiative to support advocacy work focusing on systemic issues that affect access to affordable health services. This initiative will allow BHT to focus upstream by supporting agencies that work toward providing long-term solutions to barriers to care for middle Tennessee's underserved populations. Funding will include unrestricted, multiyear core support for nonprofit partners working to increase access to health services and improved health outcomes for vulnerable populations, and smaller one-year capacity building grants for nonprofits that want to begin advocacy work (\$2 million projected for one year).
- **Get Covered Tennessee Initiative** – Get Covered Tennessee is a private collaboration to help uninsured Tennesseans understand and enroll in new health care coverage options provided by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care

Act. BHT assisted the state with strategic planning related to outreach efforts and funded almost \$1 million a year for the past two years for in-person enrollment assistance. Additionally, BHT helped fund www.getcoveredtenn.org and recruited an advisory council charged with coordinating statewide outreach and enrollment efforts amongst all major stakeholders. BHT grantees meet monthly to share best practices, coordinate efforts, and overcome barriers (\$1.8 million over two years).

- **Developing a New Model for the Education of Health Professionals** – Vanderbilt University's innovative Program in Interprofessional Learning is a collaboration of Vanderbilt, Tennessee State, Belmont, and David Lipscomb universities in which student teams comprised of medical, nursing, social work, and pharmacy students receive training on the delivery of care that is compassionate and culturally appropriate. BHT has been a key partner in launching the team approach, the inclusion of social work and pharmacy students, support of a compassionate care coaching component throughout the curriculum, and support of a partnering clinic for student teams to complete their clinical rotations (\$905,369 over four years).

Focusing on Compassion as an Imperative:

"Love and compassion are necessities, not luxuries. Without them humanity cannot survive." – Dalai Lama. Essential to our mission, the words "love" and "compassion" are not often found in describing grantmaking. We believe that care must be given with excellence, but also with compassion. We seek to uphold our partners through direct program funding, as well as funded retreats, programs, and workshops intended to help refresh and renew nonprofit staff in their work. Our hope for generations to come is that sustainability will always include resources beyond the dollar for efforts that embody the best of what makes us human.

Catherine Self
President and CEO

