

The Hitachi Foundation

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The Hitachi Foundation was established in 1985 by the Hitachi Corporation and is governed by an independent board and staff. The corporate foundation is committed to investments that enhance what society can learn about socially sustainable business practice and corporate citizenship. The Hitachi Foundation is innovative and risk-taking in its philanthropic efforts. It is dedicated to exploring the societal impact and limits of corporate social responsibility by leveraging its unique role in the corporate philanthropy space to forge strategic partnerships and lead national initiatives with other foundations and institutions.

Program Information: The Hitachi Foundation's strategic plan is to operate as a catalyst for health care centers and firms to create and sustain quality jobs by drawing attention to innovative business approaches that work. The foundation is eager to spread these ideas and will deepen its impact in two critical sectors of the U.S. economy: health care and manufacturing. Its mission is to discover, demonstrate, and expand business practices that both measurably improve economic opportunities for low-wealth individuals and enhance long-term business value.

Through its Pioneer Employers Initiative, The Hitachi Foundation has uncovered many examples of health care centers that had a head start in addressing challenges in patient care and skyrocketing costs. Central to their success was an expanded role for frontline health care workers, including medical assistants, community health workers, and home health aides. The foundation will continue to showcase health providers that have adopted effective strategies to improve patient outcomes, increase productivity, and advance the careers of lower-wage health care workers. The foundation's strategic goal is to expand the number of providers making changes that address the complexities of the new health care landscape.

► Financial Information:

Total Assets: \$23 Million (FY 2012)
Amount Dedicated to Health-Related Grants: \$2.2 Million (FY 2014-2016)

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

- **Center for the Health Professions at University of California, San Francisco** – Funding supports the center's efforts to engage and train California-based clinic leaders on advanced medical assistant management, training, and deployment practices through seminars and webinars. In addition, the center will develop and publish updates to the 14 case studies originally released in 2011 (\$135,073 for one year).

- **Brookings Institution, Engelberg Center for Healthcare Reform** – The center is investigating and promoting pioneering employment practices for frontline health care workers and how these practices may be applied to emerging models of care, such as accountable care organizations, shared savings programs, and patient-centered medical homes/neighborhoods (\$152,652 over 15 months).
- **Run Riot Films, LLC** – Funding is being used to produce videos that document and promote the practices and models of pioneer employers in health care (\$98,900 over 18 months).
- **National Association of Community Healthcare Centers** – Support is helping the association engage clinic leaders and others in spreading practices identified through the Pioneer Employer Initiative on the retasking and training of medical assistants to boost earnings and quality of care, and address rising health care costs (\$65,000 over 24 months).

Role of Philanthropy in Meeting Pressing Needs:

“As a nation, we need to be healthier and we need to pay less for health care. Despite the urgency of our situation, we’ve dedicated far too much time fighting and too little time fixing. Even where we have some traction on fixes, a critical truth is often overlooked: it’s about people—not just the consumers of health care, but also those who deliver the services. People employed in the fastest-growing direct-care positions, such as medical assistants and personal care aides, are often stuck in dead-end, low-wage jobs that do not make full use of their human capital. The Hitachi Foundation has discovered a substantial number of clinics, hospitals, and long-term care providers that start with the goal of healthier patients and achieve it by deploying their people differently to get the job done. In the coming years we will use our grant funds to continue helping other providers achieve these same outcomes.”

Tom Strong
Senior Program Officer

