

GIH BULLETIN

Helping grantmakers

improve the health of all people

GRANT
MAKERS
IN HEALTH

REMEMBERING LEILA POLINTAN

APRIL 2016



Leila May Polintan, 39, was GIH's Communications Director from 2007 to 2016. Sadly, we lost her on Saturday, April 2 after a courageous 3½-year battle with breast cancer. Leila had a large footprint at GIH: she designed and managed our electronic communications, oversaw the monthly *Bulletin* and annual conference materials, and wrote our style guide. She also filled the halls with her infectious laughter; kept Pump, a Halloween pumpkin, filled with tempting candies; and spontaneously led staff on exercise walks from the lobby to our 12th floor suite. It is characteristic that Leila met her husband,

Jeffrey L. Bugno, through kickball. She was known for her good spirits and sense of fun, her ready smile, and her great enthusiasm for GIH and the work we do.

Faced with her cancer diagnosis in the fall of 2013, Leila revealed unflagging strength and hopefulness. She fought hard to beat her disease, and continued to contribute to GIH, even during difficult times. The courage and grace she demonstrated throughout her long struggle are a lasting inspiration to everyone on the staff and board. At Leila's funeral mass, we saw how many people she had touched during her years living and working in and around Washington, DC. The church was filled with her family members, friends, and former coworkers, joined in sorrow and also in loving fellowship.

Leila was born in Rochester, New York and raised in Pueblo, Colorado. She was a graduate of St. Scholastica Academy in Cañon City, Colorado and earned a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Colorado at Boulder and a master's degree from The George Washington University. Before joining GIH, she was employed by the Children's Cause for Cancer Advocacy. Leila was a member of Cherry Blossom Giving Circle and Face to Face; a devout Catholic; and an avid reader, golfer, and skier. She is survived by her loving parents Dr. Lirio S. Polintan and Celynia F. Polintan of Pueblo West, Colorado; sisters Mia Polintan and husband Wil Herren, Liza Polintan, and Michelle Polintan, all of Denver, Colorado; and brother Mark Polintan and Caitlyn Komar of Newport Beach, California. In addition, she leaves behind many uncles, aunts, cousins, and godchildren. We will miss her.

Faith Mitchell

President and CEO
Grantmakers In Health

GIHNEWS

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: 2016 TERRANCE KEENAN INSTITUTE

GIH seeks exceptional grantmakers to participate in the 2016 Terrance Keenan Institute for Emerging Leaders in Health Philanthropy. The program, to be held November 16-17 in Washington, DC, is an opportunity for foundation leaders to enhance the professional development of their most promising staff. Nominations are due Friday, May 27. Visit www.gih.org for full details.

HELP SELECT NEXT YEAR'S ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSIONS

GIH is looking for Funding Partners to serve on our 2017 Annual Conference Call for Proposals Review Committee. Committee members' feedback is an essential part of developing the annual conference. The call for proposals goes to the field of health philanthropy in early May. Proposal reviews will take place over several weeks in June and July. The process is entirely electronic; no meetings or conference calls. If you are interested in participating contact GIH Senior Program Director Kate Treanor at ktreanor@gih.org by May 6, 2016.

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

NEW GRANTS & PROGRAMS

- **The Atlantic Philanthropies** (New York, NY) awarded \$5.5 million to **The George Washington University's (GW) Health Workforce Institute** (Washington, DC). Funding will support the identification, connection, and preparation of leaders in the field to advance the concept of social mission in health professions education. Specifically, funding will support three initiatives: **Educating Leaders**, which will focus on the design and implementation of an annual, yearlong, **Health Equity Fellowship** program; **Building Pipelines**, a joint endeavor of the institute and **GW's School of Medicine and Health Sciences** that will develop and augment pipeline programs for disadvantaged youth in Washington, DC, who are interested in learning about health care, health equity, and careers in the health sciences; and **Fostering Networks**, a collaborative effort with **Beyond Flexner Alliance** that will focus on developing a national network of organizations dedicated to transformative change in health professions education around the principle of social mission. For more information, visit the "News" section of www.atlanticphilanthropies.org.
- **Austin-Bailey Health and Wellness Foundation** (Canton, OH) supported 13 nonprofit organizations in the four-county area of Holmes, Stark, Tuscarawas, and Wayne in Ohio by approving grant requests totaling \$139,530. Funded programs promote the physical and mental well-being of the people living in those four counties. Among the grantees are: **Viola Startzman Clinic** (Wooster) – \$25,000 to partially fund a nurse practitioner; **Stark County Mental Health & Addiction Recovery** (Canton) – \$24,000 to support a youth mental health first-aid project; **Mt. Eaton Care Center** – \$15,000 to purchase equipment for its birthing center; and **Community Hospice of Tuscarawas County** (New Philadelphia) – \$6,000 for training that addresses end-of-life care and for supplies for a new learning lab. In addition to the above grants, Austin-Bailey provides \$4,000 scholarships to students at **Aultman College** (Canton), **Kent State University Stark** (North Canton), **Kent State University Tuscarawas** (New Philadelphia), **Malone University** (Canton), **Stark State College** (Canton), **University of Mount Union** (Alliance), and **Walsh University** (North Canton). Recipients of those scholarships are all engaged in health-related studies. **Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine** (Athens) also receives \$11,000 for two foundation scholarships. Contact: Don Sultzback, 330.580.2380.
- **The Baptist Healing Trust** (Nashville, TN) has awarded \$1.7 million to 12 grantees in its newly formed **Advocacy Grants Program**. This initiative was established in 2015 to provide support for nonprofit partners advocating for policy changes and program enhancements that improve health outcomes for vulnerable or underserved populations in middle Tennessee by either increasing access to health services or preventing childhood trauma. The grantees are: **Nashville CARES** – \$195,000 over three years to increase the number of HIV-infected clients who achieve "optimal viral suppression" (OVS), which is control of the virus in their bodies to such a degree that it is "undetectable," and to reduce annual reported new HIV infections by 50 percent; **Tennessee Voices for Children** (TVC) (Nashville) – \$195,000 over three years to support improving the children's mental health system; and **Mental Health America of Middle Tennessee** (Nashville) – \$180,000 over three years to support politicians' engagement statewide and to address specific legislative and budget concerns impacting mental health and substance abuse. Contact: Beth Uselton, 615.284.8271 beth.uselton@healingtrust.org.
- **The John A. Hartford Foundation** (New York, NY) approved \$6.7 million in grants to support three projects that promote opportunities for large-scale change that will result in better care and better lives for older adults. **University of Washington, Cambia Palliative Care Center of Excellence** (Seattle) received \$3.5 million to support the spread of six innovative national models of end-of-life and serious illness care, as well as fund the creation of a collective strategy among the innovators with shared goals, common metrics, and mutually reinforcing field-building activities. This work will improve care for at least 300,000 people with serious illness and those at the end of life. A grant for \$2.9 million was awarded to **The National Association of Area Agencies on Aging, Inc.** (Washington, DC) for the development of a national resource center to provide training and disseminate tools that help community-based organizations contract with health systems to deliver social services integrated with medical care that can keep older adults healthy and independent. **University of Minnesota, National Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education** (Minneapolis) will use a three-year, \$300,000 grant to help establish geriatric team care in community-based settings and inform the development of interprofessional curricula in nursing and other health professional schools. Up to 25 nursing school-led, community-based programs will be selected and awarded grants to develop interprofessional courses and activities while cultivating collaborations among health professions and educational and community partners. For more information, visit www.jhartfound.org/news-events/news.
- **CDC Foundation** (Atlanta, GA) received a \$1.5 million grant from **Conrad N. Hilton Foundation** (Agoura Hills, CA) for efforts to educate adolescents about substance abuse and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). CDC Foundation will use the funding to develop a comprehensive substance abuse prevention and sexual risk behavior reduction program in high-risk communities in three states: Indiana, Kentucky, and Ohio. The pilot program will focus on prevention education, referrals to health services, reducing stigma, and monitoring and evaluation. A key aim of the program is to help teens gain knowledge and skills to prevent substance use and HIV/STD infection. The project will also include development of a case

Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Foundation

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Established in 1980, the Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Foundation supports Harvard Pilgrim's corporate mission to improve the quality and value of health care for the people and communities it serves. This corporate foundation supports local initiatives in the four states where Harvard Pilgrim conducts business: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire. The foundation helps build healthy communities by investing in programs that provide access to fresh, healthy food; reducing health disparities; and supporting Harvard Pilgrim employees as they invest their time and foundation funds across the region. In 2015, the foundation awarded nearly \$2.3 million in grants to 700 nonprofit organizations. Since its inception, it has awarded \$135 million in funds and resources throughout the four states.

Program Information: The foundation's primary focus is on programs and initiatives that assist low- to moderate-income families and communities. In 2015, the foundation expanded its focus on preventing childhood obesity to help families and communities eat healthier by launching the Harvard Pilgrim Healthy Food Fund. The first initiative under this fund has been to create a fleet of mobile produce markets—"Veggie Mobiles"—operating in five New England cities. The foundation also awarded grant support to 20 organizations that grow, distribute, and market fresh, healthy food. This year, the foundation is creating a new grants program on nutrition and healthy aging, which will kick off with a cooking event and book launch.

► Financial Information:

Total Assets: Nearly \$2.4 million (FY 2015)

Amount Dedicated to Health-Related Grants: \$2.3 million (FY 2015)

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

- **Healthy Food Fund** – In 2015, the foundation successfully transitioned its eight-year investment in preventing childhood obesity to the Healthy Food Fund. More than \$1.5 million in grants was awarded in 2015, including nearly \$973,000 to support community growers and markets on the supply side, as well as programs that build consumer demand for healthy food.
- **Mobile Farmers' Markets** – Across the country, organizations are using mobile markets to increase access to fresh and local fruits and vegetables. In New England, Harvard Pilgrim has launched a fleet of mobile markets to create better access to healthy food. In 2015, Harvard Pilgrim awarded \$160,000 in grants, funding mobile markets in Worcester and Lowell, Massachusetts; Hartford, Connecticut; and Lewiston/Auburn, Maine; with another mobile market on tap to launch this year in New Hampshire. All accept Women Infants and Children (WIC) and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)/ Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) benefits at every stop and increase the purchasing power of SNAP benefits.
- **Community Spirit 9/11 Mini-Grants** – This program enables each Harvard Pilgrim Health Care employee to annually award a \$500 grant from the foundation to the charity of his or her choice. In 2015, the foundation awarded a total of \$616,000 to more than 700 organizations in 275 communities through the program. Since this employee-directed effort began in 2002 as a memorial to Harvard Pilgrim members who lost their lives on September 11, 2001, the foundation has contributed more than \$4.4 million to thousands of organizations in the region. More than 95 percent of employees participated in foundation service and giving programs in 2015.
- **Eating Well at Every Age** – The foundation's newest initiative will award grants to local organizations that provide cooking, nutrition, and gardening activities for adults over 65. A minimum of \$200,000 in grants will be awarded in 2016.
- **Health Equity Roundtable** – After decades of providing cultural competency training to health practitioners and organizations, the foundation will begin convening health and community leaders on important issues relating to health disparities. This new Health Equity Roundtable will kick off in early 2016 in Boston, on the topic of health care needs of transgender people.

Role of Philanthropy in Meeting

Pressing Needs: *"Boosting the availability of fresh, local, affordable food for everyone is a health strategy, a way to build local economies, and a force for cooling our planet. Health institutions have a special responsibility to lead in this effort, especially for low-income communities where nutritious food can be scarce and expensive."*

Karen Voci
President



study to evaluate the linkages between **Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT)** and its outcomes to develop the evidence base for school-based brief interventions. Contact: Amy Tolchinsky, 404.523.3486, atolchinsky@cdcfoundation.org.

- **Houston Endowment (TX)** awarded a \$2 million grant to **Mental Health America of Greater Houston** as part of the foundation's priority to enhance access to primary and preventive care in greater Houston, Texas. The grant will support the launch of the **Houston Center for School Behavioral Health**, which intends to facilitate the implementation of effective policies and practices within school districts and child-serving agencies that will improve the prevention, early identification, and treatment of behavioral health issues among children. The center is an expansion of Mental Health America's **School Behavioral Health Initiative**, a coalition of over 50 entities in greater Houston including school districts, behavioral health providers, and child-serving agencies. The coalition, formed in 2012, has developed recommendations focused on improving the policies, funding, and systems that influence how schools approach behavioral health among students. The initiative has thus far resulted in numerous state legislative changes and the adoption of programs by several area school districts focused on training educators to recognize and respond to behavioral health issues. The center will expand upon this work, providing incentive grants and technical assistance to school districts that pilot systems-level change initiatives; launching a social media campaign intended to reduce the stigma of children's behavioral health issues; coordinating learning communities and hosting an annual statewide conference; and monitoring implementation of local initiatives and evaluating their impact. Contact: Jennifer Hines, 713.238.8133, jhines@houstonendowment.org.
- **Moses Taylor Foundation (Scranton, PA)** approved nine grants totaling \$2 million to support local organizations that advance the foundation's strategic priority of promoting health and

wellness throughout northeast Pennsylvania. Among the grantees are: **The Commonwealth Medical College (Scranton)** – \$1.2 million over three years for infrastructure and support for its **Behavioral Health Initiative**, aimed at addressing critical needs in mental health and substance abuse in the foundation's 17-county region of northeastern and north-central Pennsylvania; **Maternal & Family Health Services (Scranton)** – \$209,482 to support the organization's **Health Information Technology Initiative**, and specifically, the implementation of an electronic health record. MFHS provides health care and services to low-income, uninsured, and underinsured women, children, and families across 16 northeastern Pennsylvania counties; and **Scranton School District** – \$99,825 to expand implementation of the schoolwide **Positive Behavior Interventions and Support Program** across the school district. The program works to build a school culture that promotes wellness and academic success, teaches appropriate social skills to students, prevents problem behavior, directs targeted students to specialized and individualized support, and uses data for decisionmaking. Contact: LaTida Smith, 570.207.3731, LSmith@MosesTaylorFoundation.org.

- **UniHealth Foundation (Los Angeles, CA)** recently awarded more than \$4.2 million to seven organizations through its **Hospital Fund** and \$310,000 to five organizations through its **General Purpose Fund**. Among the grantees are: **Glendale Memorial Hospital & Health Center (CA)** – \$795,000 over three years to transform the patient care experience and improve financial sustainability by launching the **Integrated Supportive Care Program**, an evidence-based, innovative program aimed at dramatically improving care outcomes for chronically ill patients and decreasing the amount of futile treatment in the hospital; **Harbor-UCLA Medical Center (Los Angeles, CA)** – \$540,000 over three years to support Phase II of the **Forever Fit Program**, with funds being directed to further developing the program, which helps obese children achieve and maintain weight loss; and **Helen Keller International (New York, NY)** –

\$40,000 to support **Childsight Los Angeles**, which provides vision screenings, prescription eyeglasses, and referrals for further assessment and care as needed to low-income, underserved students in school and at no cost to the family. For more information, visit www.unihealthfoundation.org.

- **United Hospital Fund (UHF) (New York, NY)** launched the **Outpatient Antibiotic Stewardship Initiative**, which seeks to identify factors that drive practice for prescribing antibiotics in outpatient services and to develop interventions to improve the appropriateness of prescription decisions involving hospitals across the metropolitan area, in a concerted effort to improve antibiotic-prescribing practices in the community. Nine New York hospitals and health systems will receive an aggregate \$355,780 from UHF to participate. UHF will bring additional institutional resources for developing and implementing successful approaches to antibiotic stewardship. UHF will work with sites affiliated with the selected hospitals to analyze prescribing practices for adult patients with acute respiratory infections. UHF will create the structure for the initiative and lead learning sessions and webinars, as well as provide technical assistance and access to content experts. An advisory group of infectious disease physicians, pharmacists, and outpatient clinicians will help develop tools to conduct baseline information. The data will then allow them to develop improvement plans to pilot, implement, and evaluate a proposed intervention. Contact: Bob de Luna, 212.494.0733, rdeluna@uhfny.org.

SURVEYS, STUDIES & PUBLICATIONS

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Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation (Boston) released the results of the *Massachusetts Health Reform Survey*. Conducted in the fall of 2015 by the Urban Institute, the survey tracks health insurance coverage, health care access, use of services, and affordability of care. Findings show that the state continues to have high

rates of insured residents; however, Massachusetts also faces challenges with access and affordability, especially among lower-income residents, as well as those with more extensive health care needs. Further, more than one-third of insured respondents reported that they did without needed health care over the past year, including forgoing medical care (23.3 percent), prescription drugs (13.7 percent), and dental care (17.6 percent). Those with low incomes (at or below 138 percent of the federal poverty level) were twice as likely to have unmet need for care than those with higher incomes (at or above 400 percent of the federal poverty level)—52.3 percent vs. 26.9 percent, respectively. Although 95.7 percent of nonelderly adults had coverage at the time they were surveyed, and 88.6 percent maintained coverage for the entire year, almost half of insured nonelderly adults (46.9 percent) reported one or more access challenges, such as difficulty finding a provider that would accept their insurance; finding a provider that was accepting new patients; or getting an appointment with a provider in a timely manner. Visit the publications section of <http://bluecrossfoundation.org> for more information. Contact: Greg Turner, 617.243.9950, greg@ballcg.com.

- **The Colorado Health Foundation** (Denver) has released the **2016 Colorado Health Report Card**, which highlights 10 years of measuring progress and challenges toward addressing Colorado's most pressing health issues. Indicators for children and babies for 2016 earned the highest grades in the 10-year history of the report. Data reveal significant gains in reducing the number of uninsured children across the state. In 2007, 14.1 percent of the state's children were uninsured, compared to the current rate of 5 percent. Despite overall gains, the number of children living in poverty has grown from 14.4 percent to 20.1 percent during that same time period. The immunization rate for older adults has also declined since 2007. Currently 52.8 percent are receiving recommended immunizations, whereas 62.2 percent received them in 2007. In addition, while obesity rates among children rose 1 percent, obesity rates for adults increased

from 18.4 percent in 2007 to 21.5 percent this year. To view the full report, visit www.coloradohealth.org/reportcard.

- **Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky** (Louisville) reported on findings from the latest **Kentucky Health Issues Poll**. The poll revealed that 85 percent of adults across the state favor tobacco-free school policies for schools in their community. Currently just over one-fourth (28 percent) of Kentucky's school districts have enacted 100 percent tobacco-free school policies that prohibit tobacco use from anyone—students, staff, parents, and guests—while on school grounds or during off-site school-sponsored activities, such as sporting events and field trips. Nearly one-quarter (23 percent) of middle school students say they have tried smoking cigarettes, while 28 percent of high school students indicate that they currently use tobacco products, including cigarettes, cigars, or smokeless tobacco. The report, which is sponsored annually by the foundation and Interact for Health (Cincinnati, OH), is available for download at www.healthy-ky.org.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

- **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation** (Princeton NJ) has issued a Call for Proposals to support its **Global Ideas for U.S. Solutions** initiative. Through this funding initiative, the foundation hopes to bring a global perspective to promoting healthier lives in the United States. The foundation will subsidize projects that align with the foundation's Culture of Health Action Framework, with an emphasis on building healthy spaces, building social connection across the lifespan, getting and keeping children healthy, integrating health and social services, and increasing health care systems' focus on the root causes of poor health. Priority will be given to approaches that have demonstrated impact but have not been widely tested or implemented in the U.S. Individual grants will range from \$50,000 to \$250,000. For more information, visit www.rwjf.org.

AWARDS

- **The Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust** (Winston-Salem, NC) is now accepting applications for the **2016 New Rural: Innovations in Rural Health Award**. The trust established the award to encourage and recognize promising work that has the potential to improve the health status of people living in North Carolina's rural communities and communities across the country. The trust is encouraging submission of original, innovative ideas and solutions—not necessarily finished projects—that aim to drive health improvement in rural communities. The New Rural Award recipient will receive a \$25,000 award; finalists will receive \$7,500. Submissions will be accepted from applicants around the country and are due by 11:59 PM on April 29, 2016. For more information, visit www.kbr.org/news. Contact: Erin Barlow, ruralprize@kbr.org.

PEOPLE

- **Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina Foundation** (Durham) announced the promotion of **Jennifer Zuckerman** to the role of Strategic Partnership Director. Ms. Zuckerman joined the foundation as Program Officer in 2006. In her new role, she will focus on innovative work in the field of philanthropy, while cultivating partnerships to create new funding streams for North Carolina's nonprofit community. Ms. Zuckerman will continue serving as Healthy Living Senior Program Officer until a replacement is hired. For more information about Ms. Zuckerman, visit www.bcbsncfoundation.org/about-us/our-people/.
- **Children's Fund of Connecticut** (Farmington) has appointed **Charlene Russell-Tucker**, COO for the Connecticut State Department of Education, to its Board of Directors. Ms. Russell-Tucker is also Division Chief for the department's Office of Student Supports and Organizational Effectiveness. She previously served as Associate Commissioner of Education

and Bureau Chief within the department. Ms. Russell-Tucker participates on various state and national committees. She is Co-chair of the Connecticut General Assembly Committee on Children Strategic Action Group on Chronic Absenteeism, and she is an expert panel member of committees of the National Academies Institute of Medicine. In addition, Ms. Russell-Tucker has extensive teaching experience as an adjunct faculty member at Albertus Magnus College School of New Dimensions. Contact: Cindy Langer, 860.679.1538, langer@uchc.edu.

■ **The Pottstown Area Health & Wellness Foundation** (PA) welcomed two new members to its Board of Directors: **Adam Conish, C.F.A.**, and **Sonia Frecon, D.D.S.** Mr. Conish is the Managing Director of the Endowment and Foundation Practice at The Glenmede Trust Company in Philadelphia, where he oversees professionals dedicated to serving institutional endowment, foundation, pension plan, profit sharing plan and trust accounts. He currently serves on the board's finance committee. Dr. Frecon is a licensed dentist in Peru, a practicing dental hygienist, and a certified health coach in integrated health and lifestyle therapy in the U.S. She currently serves on the board's Marketing and Communications Committee. Contact: Rose Walters, 610.323.2006, ext. 21, rosewalters@pottstownfoundation.org.

■ **Saint Luke's Foundation of Cleveland** (OH) is pleased to announce the appointment of **Kathleen Lis Dean, Ph.D.**, as Senior Director for Evaluation, Outcomes and Learning, and **Kristen Summers** as Grants Manager. Dr. Dean possesses more than 20 years of experience in outcomes assessment, accountability and continuous improvement, leadership development, and institutional effectiveness. Prior to joining the foundation, she served as a consultant with ModernThink. Past work includes roles with John Carroll University and the University of Maryland. In her new role, Dr. Dean will provide leadership for the foundation's evaluation efforts, outcomes measurement, and learning in order to advance its mission of improving and transforming the health and well-being of Greater Cleveland. Before joining the foundation, Ms. Summers worked at Monarch Teaching Technologies, Inc. Previously she worked at ELS Language Center and the Office of Global Education at Kent State University. As Grants Manager, Ms. Summers will manage application and reporting processes, evaluate requests at all stages of the grants process, provide assistance to grant seekers and grantees, and direct all technical components of grants management, including the structure of grants and regulatory compliance. Contact: Anne C. Goodman, 216.431.8010, agoodman@saintlukesfoundation.org.

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The GIH Bulletin is published as an educational and information service for health grantmakers. Letters to the editor, press releases, notices of new program initiatives, personnel updates, and other materials should be sent to the GIH offices in Washington or faxed to: Editor, GIH Bulletin, 202.452.8340; E-mail: bulletin@gih.org.

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