THE POWER OF PEER CONNECTION:
GIH FUNDER NETWORKS

Over the past year, GIH board members have sponsored receptions in their home communities, a wonderful opportunity to meet grantmakers across the country. At these receptions, What are other funders doing? was frequently asked about issues related to behavioral health, health reform, and any number of other timely topics. The underlying commonality was the interest in how other grantmakers were faring. What have other funders learned from their grantmaking? What are the emerging topics?

GIH staff members are one source of answers to these questions. Another resource is Funding Partners themselves, connecting peer-to-peer via GIH’s Funder Networks. Our first network, focused on children’s health insurance coverage, dates from 2007. From it we learned how much networks help funders communicate, coordinate, and collaborate. We now host networks in the areas of behavioral health, health equity, health reform, healthy eating/active living, integrative health, kids’ access, oral health, and population health. New networks are organized when there is a critical mass of interested funders and dedicated funding. Helping funders connect is the networks’ key role. Because health foundations vary so much in their geographic and topical focus, and new foundations are constantly entering the scene, these connections are vitally important ways to reduce isolation and build collective knowledge.

Networks offer funders two main ways to connect with grantmaking colleagues: (1) by meeting in-person at the GIH annual conference and (2) by using GIH’s e-forums to communicate throughout the year. Our e-forums are a platform for sharing ideas, questions, and announcements. By participating in them, you educate GIH, as well as your peers, and help the field by sharing information about both the challenges you are grappling with and your evolving grantmaking interests.

In this era of fast-paced information exchange we see tremendous value in individual connections and peer networks. We design GIH Funder Networks to be trusted forums for sharing ideas and questions and learning from colleagues. Online registration will soon open for our 2015 Annual Conference on Health Philanthropy in Austin, Texas. The annual conference will offer many opportunities for funders to network and learn from one another. We hope you will join us to connect with your colleagues, access the collective wisdom of the broader GIH community, and share your own learnings. In the meantime, if you have questions about engaging with GIH Funder Networks, please contact Osula Evadne Rushing at orushing@gih.org.

Faith Martin
President and CEO
Grantmakers In Health

Alison Perenchich
Program Director
Grantmakers In Health
NEW GRANTS & PROGRAMS

- **The Colorado Trust** (Denver) announced that it will grant approximately $4 million in general operating funds to the **Colorado Health Institute** (CHI) (Denver) over the next five years. The funds will assist CHI in its mission to “improve the health of all Coloradans by serving as the most trusted and leading source of credible health information” for policymakers, community leaders, and other stakeholders. The trust partnered with **Caring for Colorado Foundation** (Denver) and **Rose Community Foundation** (Denver) to create CHI in 2002. The trust has long aligned with many of CHI’s strategic initiatives, including advancing health policy discussions at both a community and statewide level, contributing to health care system redesign and payment reform via research and evaluation, and sharing findings and evidence that improve health policy decisionmaking. For more information, visit www.coloradotrust.org. Contact: Julian Kesner, 303.539.3147, julian@coloradotrust.org.

- **The Health Foundation of Greater Indianapolis, Inc.** (IN) recently awarded grants totaling $3.15 million to 10 local health care providers and AIDS service agencies. **Eskanazi Health** will use a $1 million grant to offer rapid HIV testing at eight Eskanazi Health Center locations to approximately 385,000 people. **The Damien Center**, which received a $1.3 million grant, will use funding to add a range of primary care services to its HIV health care offerings by hiring a full-time psychiatrist and dentist and adding a dental exam room, three medical examination rooms, and a career development program to its suite of services for clients who are HIV positive or at high risk of HIV infection. The center will also expand medical services provided by Indiana University Health’s LifeCare Clinic and Community North Infectious Disease Clinic. **Brothers United** will use its $250,000 grant to expand office space and develop a robust marketing and outreach program to provide more people with HIV testing, linkage to medical care, and counseling and social services. A portion of the grant will be used to hire a grantwriter and to upgrade the organization’s hardware and software systems. For more information, visit www.thfgi.org. Contact: Lisa Sirkin Vielee, 317.979.4424.

- **Health Foundation of South Florida** (Miami) was awarded a $120,000 grant from the **Pfizer Foundation** (Wayne, PA) and **Grantmakers In Aging** (Arlington, VA) as part of a third year of funding totaling $1.49 million for **Community AGENda**, an initiative aimed at helping American communities become great places to grow up and grow old. As part of the grant, the foundation is required to raise at least $40,000 in local matching funds for its **Miami-Dade Age Friendly** initiative, which is now in its third year. The foundation will use the award to expand on current age-friendly accomplishments, which include the creation of an age-friendly business district in Little Havana and age-friendly programs in county parks. Plans include launching a community planning process to identify age-friendly priorities, developing a three-year action plan, continuing age-friendly work on Miami-Dade county’s master and transportation plans, expanding the age-friendly business district, developing an awareness campaign, and convening an age-friendly summit for the region. Contact: Shari Gantman, 305.374.9199, sgantman@hfsf.org.

- **The New York Community Trust** (NY) awarded $7.6 million in grants to 95 nonprofits that address a range of issues for residents of New York City. Among the New York City-based grantees are: **Legal Action Center** – $150,000 to improve access to drug treatment for persons struggling with substance abuse issues with criminal records; **Quality Services for the Autism Community** – $130,000 to train special and general education public school teachers to work with children with autism; **Callen-Lode Community Health Center** – $100,000 to partner with **Services and Advocacy for LGBT Elders** and the **Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center** to provide coordinated health care services; **Community Services Society of New York** – $90,000 to study ways to provide health care to undocumented immigrants; **Mount Sinai Hospital** – $80,000 to diagnose and treat adolescents with trauma; **New York Stem Cell Foundation** – $76,000 to study stem cells with the potential to treat Parkinson’s disease and heart disease; **Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders Association, New York City Chapter** – $40,000 to improve a program that trains home health aides working with clients with dementia; and **Treatment Action Group** – $40,000 to work with state and city government on a plan to end AIDS. For more information, visit www.nycommunitytrust.org.

- **Partners HealthCare** (Boston, MA), **Neighborhood Health Plan** (Boston, MA), and **Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers** (Boston) recently announced $3 million in grants to community health centers in the Cape Cod area through the **Partnership for Community Health** initiative. A total of 14 projects were selected for individual, multiorganizational, or developmental grants. **Harbor Community Health Center** (Hyannis, MA) received an individual grant of $494,588 to purchase software to identify suitable interventions to facilitate patients’ ability to manage their health. The software also enables the center to send automatic communication to patients that coincides with risk factors and severity of illness. The center also received a grant of $824,707 as the lead partner with 10 other health centers pursuant to a project focused on electronic health records. Another collaborative project involving **Community Health Center of Cape Cod, Duffy Health Center** (Hyannis, MA) and **Island Health Care** (Martha’s Vineyard, MA), as well as other health centers, received $825,000 to develop an innovative mode for shared telephone service that will improve triage of after-hours calls, and expand patient communications through texting and related services. Contact: Rich Copp, 617.278.1031, r copp@partners.org.
Sisters of Charity Foundation of Salem Health & Wellness Foundation (Carneys Point, NJ) announced a five-year grant, totaling $275,000, to Rutgers Cooperative Extension’s Family and Community Health Science’s Department (Piscataway Township, NJ) to establish a health educator for Salem County. This person will work in concert with the foundation’s Healthy Kids, Bright Futures Childhood Obesity initiative by providing technical assistance to grantees, developing community engagement strategies, assisting with advocating local policy and environmental changes, serving as a catalyst for partner and community engagement, and participating on the foundation’s Childhood Obesity Advisory Board. Contact: Brenda Goins, 856.299.4460.

Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland (OH) awarded more than $300,000 in third-quarter grants to Cuyahoga County nonprofits, including approximately $108,000 to 32 organizations that provide basic need services, such as food, clothing, and bus passes, to economically struggling area residents. YMCA of Greater Cleveland was awarded $48,900 for central neighborhood schools’ participation in We Run This City Youth Marathon program. Catholic Community Connection will use a grant of $23,800 to support its Deaf Access Program and Converging Conversations initiative. A $15,000 grant to Light of Hearts Villa, Inc. will provide salary support for the Pastoral Ministry Department of this organization, which offers independent and assisted living for seniors. Enterprise Community Partners, Inc. received $15,000 for Cuyahoga County’s Pay for Success pilot project, which has the potential to transform the way the county provides services for families who are both homeless and have children in foster care. The Pay for Success model will utilize private funding to pay for the program and only spend county taxpayer dollars to repay funders if the program is proven to be successful. For more information, visit www.socfcleveland.org/about-the-foundation/news/.

Tufts Health Plan (Watertown, MA) made a $10,000 donation to St. Mary’s Center for Women and Children (Dorchester, MA) to support the center’s work to promote the health and wellness of vulnerable residents. The center offers innovative and family-centered programs for women and children who have experienced trauma and are living in poverty. Placing families at the center of its efforts, St. Mary’s Center works in partnership with young women, many of them mothers, to break the intergenerational cycle of poverty and achieve lasting, powerful change. The donation coincides with the running of the 38th annual Tufts Health Plan 10k for Women. Contact: Bobbie Robertson Oldytowski, 617.972.9400, ext. 9836, bobbie_oldytowski@tufts-health.com.

United Hospital Fund (New York, NY) awarded six grants totaling $388,000 for local projects to improve health care services in New York. Among the grantees are: Improving Quality of Care – $125,000 to enhance the longstanding quality improvement infrastructure collaboratively led by the United Hospital Fund and Greater New York Hospital Association (New York); Community Service Society of New York – $75,000 to explore and report on policy options for affordable health insurance coverage for undocumented immigrants and to discuss those options in a report that will be presented to policymakers and key stakeholders; New York-Presbyterian/Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital of New York – $40,000 to engage volunteers to assist families whose children have serious cardiac problems in complying with complex medical regimens; New York Methodist Hospital – $37,000 to improve patient engagement in the hospital’s web-based patient portal through volunteer-led promotion and education activities; and Jamaica Hospital Medical Center – $36,000 to develop a peer volunteer program to support seniors at risk of readmission or other post-discharge complications. Contact: Bob de Luna, 212.494.0733, rdeluna@uhfnyc.org.

Virginia Health Care Foundation (VHCF) (Richmond) awarded $1.6 million in grants to 19 health safety net organizations throughout Virginia to increase access to medical care, behavioral and oral health services, and prescription medications for uninsured Virginians. In addition, VHCF has awarded grants to undertake outreach and enrollment initiatives designed to enroll more children in state-sponsored health insurance. Among the grantees are: New Horizons Healthcare (Roanoke) – $168,000 to establish a dental clinic and hire a full-time dentist; Partnership for Healthier Kids (Fairfax) – $124,220 for three outreach workers, office supplies, and education/outreach materials to increase the enrollment of children in state-sponsored health insurance programs; Brock Hughes Free Clinic (Wytheville) – $100,000 to renovate and convert an office building into one suitable for clinic operations; Charlottesville Free Clinic – $59,344 for a full-time licensed social worker and part-time psychiatrist; and Fauquier Free Clinic (Warrenton) – $51,110 to hire a part-time dentist to expand dental services to include pediatrics and to expand the dental clinic’s hours of operation. Contact: Debbie Oswalt, 804.828.5804.

SURVEYS, STUDIES & PUBLICATIONS

Milbank Memorial Fund (New York, NY) has published a new study that quantifies benefits and savings of family planning. Return on Investment: A Fuller Assessment of the Benefits and Cost Savings of the U.S. Publicly Funded Family Planning Program reveals that public investment in family planning programs and providers yields several benefits beyond avoiding unintended pregnancies. It can also help reduce the incidence of cervical cancer, sexually transmitted infections (STIs), infertility, and preterm delivery and low birth weight babies. In terms of financial impact, the report estimates that investments made in family planning efforts in 2010 resulted in a net government savings of $13.6 billion, which equates to $7.09 for every public dollar spent. Among these investments are contraceptive care that averted 2.2 million...
unwanted pregnancies and saved $15.7 billion; STI-HIV testing that averted thousands of cases of chlamydia, gonorrhea, HIV, ectopic pregnancies, and infertility and saved $123 million; and PAP and HPV testing and vaccines that averted thousands of cases of cervical cancer and cervical cancer deaths and saved $23 million. For more information, visit www.milbank.org. Contact: Judith Zimmer, 212.355.8400, jzimmer@milbank.org.

- Lucile Packard Foundation for Children’s Health (Palo Alto, CA) commissioned a comprehensive study of the health and well-being of California’s Latino children, who represent more than half of the state’s child population. ¿Cómo Están los Niños? The Health of Latino Children and Families in California reveals that although more Latino children live in poverty, are uninsured, and have higher rates of obesity than their white counterparts, Latino children have comparable access to preventive health care and most of their parents report them as being in “good” or “excellent” health. However, the researchers also found that children living in “linguistically isolated” families, where Spanish is primarily spoken, face far greater challenges in health access and educational achievement compared to children in families where both English and Spanish are spoken. Also among the findings is that more than 370,000 Latino children in the state have no health insurance, despite being eligible for government-funded programs. The study is intended to provide data for policymakers and advocates working both to improve the current health and well-being of Latino children and to ensure a healthier future for the children who will comprise a majority of California’s citizens. Contact: Barbara Feder Ostrov, 650.721.6044, barbara.federostrov@lpfch.org.

- Universal Health Care Foundation of Connecticut, Inc. (Meriden) and the Connecticut Citizens Action Group (Hartford) released the 2014 Women’s Health Report Card, which examines measures for health coverage and health outcomes for women. The report card gives Connecticut a number two overall ranking nationwide. The state ranked third in women’s health outcomes, fourth in women’s access to health care, and fifth in health coverage for women. Despite these areas of strength, the report points to notable racial disparities in women’s health. Latinos in Connecticut are twice as likely to be uninsured than women over all, and black women sustained infant mortality rates twice as high as women overall. The report card, which was produced by Alliance for a Just Society (Seattle, WA), uses the most current available data from government sources and ranks the 50 states on 30 measures relating to women’s health. For more information, visit www.universalhealthct.org.

MEETINGS

The 2015 National Health Impact Assessment Meeting will convene June 16 – 17, 2015, in Washington, DC. This year’s event will convene a diverse group of individuals interested in learning more about health impact assessment (HIA) and advancing the field. Areas of interest include planning, transportation, criminal justice, housing, agriculture, energy, environment, education, fiscal, economic, and labor policy. General sessions include HIA and Housing, HIA and Criminal Justice, Policymaker Perspectives on HIA, Analytic Tools and Data Sources for Assessment, and HIA and Stakeholder Engagement. Among the sponsoring organizations are: Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota (Eagan); de Beaumont Foundation (Bethesda, MD); Health Happens Here initiative of The California Endowment (Los Angeles); The Pew Charitable Trusts (Philadelphia, PA); Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (Princeton, NJ); and other partners, with assistance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Atlanta, GA). For more information, visit www.nationalHIAMeeting.com.

AWARDS

- Florida Blue Foundation (Jacksonville) and The San Francisco Foundation (CA) are recipients of the 2014 Secretaries’ Award for Public-Philanthropic Partnerships. The awards were announced by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Council on Foundations. Both foundations earned their awards for outstanding partnership with the public sector. The Florida Blue Foundation made significant improvements in addressing the childhood obesity epidemic through health and recreation, education, transportation, community participation, and sustainability across all Florida geographies – urban, suburban, and rural. Its Embrace a Healthy Florida initiative has engaged six targeted communities, along with numerous nonprofit organizations, families, youth, and community partners across Florida. Since its launch, nearly 250,000 children and families, many with limited financial resources, have participated. The San Francisco Foundation received the award as the lead organization for Partnership for HOPE SF, a public-private partnership that takes an integrated approach to address generational poverty yet to be broken in the most distressed public housing in three neighborhoods of San Francisco. The partnership works directly with residents to enhance human and social services and focuses on developing resident leaders as change agents in their communities, supporting strategies that are designed and led by and for residents who engage their fellow community members. Enterprise Community Partners, and the City and County of San Francisco are also lead partners in the organization. Contacts: Paul Kluding, Florida Blue Foundation, 904.905.3404, paul.kluding@florida.blue.com; or Cole Krawitz, The San Francisco Foundation, 415.531.5588, ckrawitz@sff.org.

OTHER NEWS

- Josiah T. Macy, Jr. Foundation (New York, NY) announced that it is accepting applications for its fifth class of Macy Faculty Scholars, which was established to help develop promising
educational innovators in medicine and nursing. Scholars will put into practice new educational innovations at their home institutions and participate in career development activities. The scholarship award includes salary support of up to $100,000 per year for up to two years, access to the programs national advisory committee, and at least 50 percent protected time for two years to pursue educational projects. Scholars will also be afforded opportunities to participate in Macy conferences and other national meetings. Applications are due February 11, 2015. For application instructions, selection criteria, and other information, visit www.macyfoundation.org/macy-scholars.

John Muir Health (Walnut Creek, CA) announced that it has been recognized as a Leader in LGBT Healthcare Equality by the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) Foundation (Washington, DC), the educational arm of the country’s largest lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) civil rights organization. The findings were part of HRC Foundation’s Healthcare Equality Index 2014, an annual survey that encourages equal care for LGBT Americans, and recognizes health care institutions that are doing good work. John Muir Health earned top marks in meeting nondiscrimination and training criteria, demonstrating its commitment to equitable, inclusive care for LGBT patients and their families, who can face significant challenges in securing the quality health care and respect they deserve. John Muir Health was one of a select group of health care facilities nationwide to be recognized. Facilities awarded this title meet key criteria, including patient and employee nondiscrimination policies that specifically mention sexual orientation and gender identity, a guarantee of equal visitation for same-sex partners and parents, and LGBT health education for key staff members. Contact: Ben Drew, 925.947.5384.

PEOPLE

Endowment for Health (Concord, NH) welcomes Yvonne Goldsberry, Ph.D. as the foundation’s Vice President for Programs. Most recently, Dr. Goldsberry served as Vice President of Population Health and Clinical Integration for Cheshire Medical Center/Dartmouth Hitchcock Keene. She is credited as the architect of the nationally recognized Healthy Monadnock 2020 initiative, where she engaged numerous community coalitions and over 2,000 community leaders, stakeholders, and residents in a bold vision for community health. At Cheshire Medical, Dr. Goldsberry also provided leadership for value-based care initiatives, prevention and clinical service collaborations, community benefit reporting, and had managerial oversight of other hospital departments. Prior to that, Dr. Goldsberry served at the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Community and Public Health, where she developed the NH Public Health Network. Dr. Goldsberry will join the endowment in early December. Contact: Karen Agar, 603.228.2448, ext. 313, kager@endowmentforhealth.org.

North Penn Community Health Foundation (Colmar, PA) recently announced the appointment of two new board members: Nicholas Bucci and Lisa Dickson. Mr. Bucci is a Portfolio Manager with Hirtle, Callaghan & Co. and a certified financial planner. In addition, he serves as an Adjunct Instructor at Eastern University and Philadelphia University, teaching graduate and undergraduate finance. Ms. Dickson is Senior Vice President for Financial and Strategic Planning at Radian Guaranty, Inc. She is a graduate of the class of 2009 for Leadership Philadelphia and currently serves on its Board of Directors as Treasurer. She is also the former Board Chair and Treasurer for EducationWorks. The foundation also elected the following officers: Kenneth Amey, Chair, an independent land planner and Principal of Kenneth Amey Consultants; George Marks, Vice Chair, Managing Partner at Kramer + Marks Architects; Paul Pocalyko, Treasurer, Partner with ParenteBeard; and Sandi Vasoli, Secretary, Principal of Centrum Partners, LLC. For more information, visit www.npchf.org/news.

Palm Healthcare Foundation (West Palm Beach, FL) announced the addition of Regine Cordon to the foundation’s grantmaking staff. Ms. Cordon will manage and enhance the operational aspects of the foundation’s grantmaking programs and will administer the grant and scholarship application processes and evaluation activities for the foundation’s community investments, including neighborhood and nursing initiatives and Palm Healthcare Pavilion programs. Ms. Cordon will also support the foundation’s strategic and collaborative grantmaking activities. Most recently Ms. Cordon was COO of Minority Development and Empowerment in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. Prior to that, she served as Executive Director of the Children’s Home Society of Florida. Contact: Lilly Leas, 561.310.4976, lilly.leas@gmail.com.

The Pew Charitable Trusts (Philadelphia, PA) announced the appointment of Michael Dimock, Ph.D. as President of the Pew Research Center (Washington, DC). Dr. Dimock has worked for the center for 14 years, most recently as Executive Vice President. He started with the center in 2000, became Associate Director of Research in 2004, and advanced to Director of the center’s political polling unit in 2012. Dr. Dimock has numerous published works and has presented at conferences for the American Association for Public Opinion Research. In his current role as President, Dr. Dimock will oversee the center’s overall operations and research agenda. Contact: Ann Doyle, 202.540.6314, adoyle@pewtrusts.org.

The Piton Foundation (Denver, CO) and Gary Community Investment Company (GCIC) (Denver CO) recently named Katherine Pease Senior Vice President of Philanthropic Investment and Policy. In this new role, she will lead and manage GCIC and Piton’s philanthropic investments and policy agenda to help advance the orga-
organizations’ mission of improving the lives of low-income children and their families in Colorado. Ms. Pease has more than 20 years’ experience working in the philanthropic and nonprofit communities. Since 2001, she has been principal of her own philanthropic consulting practice, Katherine Pease & Associates. Prior experience includes working as Executive Director of the Gill Foundation (Denver, CO). She currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Global Green Grants Fund (Boulder, CO). Contact: Bernita Hadley, 303.825.6246, bhadley@piton.org.

The Rhode Island Foundation (Providence) has named Michele Berard Senior Development Officer and Tim Groves Development Officer. They will be responsible for inspiring philanthropy with new prospects and current donors by providing charitable planning advice and offering high-level relationship management and customer service. Previously Ms. Berard founded Ascent Advisors, a philanthropic consultancy, and was Executive Director of the Butler Hospital Foundation (Providence, RI). She is currently President of the Rhode Island chapter of the Association for Fundraising Professionals. Mr. Groves was an attorney at Barton Gilman LLC and Co-Founder and Vice President at Schoolyard Inc. For more information, visit www.rifoundation.org.