



PARTNERS INVESTING IN NURSING'S

future

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 7, 2007

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REGIONAL FOUNDATIONS WILL HELP ADDRESS NURSING SHORTAGES IN COMMUNITIES NATIONWIDE

27 local foundations participating in latest phase of \$10 million collaborative being led by Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and Northwest Health Foundation

Eleven grants were awarded today to kick-off the second phase of *Partners Investing in Nursing's Future*, a national initiative to develop solutions to address the nursing shortage through regional and local partnerships.

Led by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Northwest Health Foundation, *Partners Investing in Nursing's Future* encourages local foundations to act as catalysts in their communities to develop strategies needed for a stable, adequate nursing workforce. The 11 grants being awarded this year represent the involvement of 27 local foundations and a multitude of other funding sources. These foundations, some for the first time, have forged partnerships in their own communities to apply for this grant, giving increased attention to the nursing shortage in their communities.

Experts say the effect of the nursing shortage is long-lasting, increasing in severity and will influence nearly every area of healthcare. In some communities across the country, the nursing shortage has become so great that it threatens patient care and safety, health care costs and patient outcomes.

“The stability and quality of our nation’s health care relies heavily on a sufficient supply of appropriately educated and skilled nurses,” said Susan B. Hassmiller, R.N., Ph.D., F.A.A.N., senior program officer at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, which is providing most of the funding for the initiative. “While the nursing shortage is a national issue, community-based interventions are necessary to finding solutions that work in different health care environments. This unique program brings regional philanthropies together to address the nursing shortage on a community-level, fostering innovations beyond what any one foundation can do alone.”

Partners Investing in Nursing's Future is beginning its second year of a five-year, \$10 million initiative. Each foundation receives \$250,000 from *Partners Investing in Nursing's Future* with the partnerships matching the awards with at least \$1 for every \$2 provided. During the program’s first year, 10 foundation partners established more than 140 local and regional partnerships to address the nursing shortage.”

“Because all health care is local, solutions need to be tailored to meet the needs of the individual communities nurses serve,” said Judith Woodruff, J.D., program director of the Northwest Health Foundation, which is directing *Partners Investing in Nursing’s Future*. “This unique program offers regional foundations the opportunity to test innovative ideas locally and share them at a national level. It also serves as a rallying point for local foundations to invite other local philanthropies and stakeholders to join them in this important effort.”

Grant recipients named today are:

- 1) **Midland Area Community Foundation, with Bay Area Community Foundation, Saginaw Community Foundation, Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation** (Michigan)
Foundations Underwriting Nursing Development will offer local foundations the opportunity to become proactively involved in the issue and create the groundwork to address future workforce issues by supporting the creation of nursing Practice Scholars who will work as RNs, attend educational facilities and teach clinical practice.
- 2) **Richmond Memorial Health Foundation, with The Cameron Foundation** (Virginia)
Central Virginia Nursing Leadership Institute will implement an innovative community-wide, year-long fellowship for emerging nursing leaders.
- 3) **Pitt Memorial Hospital Foundation, with The Duke Endowment, Medical Foundation of ECU, Inc.** (North Carolina)
PRN: Partnering for Rural Nursing will mobilize nurses to be effective partners and leaders in creating healthier communities in 29 rural counties in Eastern North Carolina.
- 4) **Project ARRIBA, with Wolslager Foundation** (Texas)
Lifting Hispanic Nurses Along the Border will increase nursing education opportunities for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds while leading those living in poverty to economic self-sufficiency.
- 5) **Oklahoma Hospital Research Foundation Trust** (Oklahoma)
Using Advanced Technology to Develop Future Nurse Leaders will use telecommunications and web-based technology to deliver leadership and faculty development courses to incumbent nurses and nurse educators in rural and diverse communities in Oklahoma.
- 6) **Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation, with M.E. and F.J. Callahan Foundation** (Ohio)
North East Ohio Nursing Faculty Corps will increase the supply of new nursing faculty and increase the capacity of new and existing nurse faculty in the use of simulation, experiential learning methods, and emerging information technologies, and increase the number of certified nurse educators among academia in northeast Ohio.
- 7) **Illinois Prairie Community Foundation** (Illinois)
Partners in Nursing of Central Illinois will improve nursing retention in Central Illinois through changing the educational infrastructure and faculty development with an emphasis on long-term care.
- 8) **Faye McBeath Foundation, with Greater Milwaukee Foundation, Northwestern Mutual Foundation** (Wisconsin)

Raising the Bar: Redesigning Community and Public Health Nursing in Wisconsin will undertake a transformational change approach to address the nursing shortage of a diverse workforce of nurses in community and public health settings.

- 9) **Dakota Medical Foundation** (North Dakota)
North Dakota Nursing Career Lattice Consortium Project will expand the production and placement of highly qualified nurses and nursing faculty in a rural-frontier region through an integrated and long-term consortium, and establish strategic partnerships with education institutions, health care providers, workforce and economic development entities, business partners and health organizations to promote sustainability.
- 10) **Con Alma Health Foundation, with New Mexico Community Foundation** (New Mexico)
Project DIVERSITY will increase the number of ethnically diverse nurses in New Mexico through a collaborative, comprehensive recruitment, nurse-student mentoring and tutoring initiative targeting 60 youth Hispanic and Native-American students.
- 11) **Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee, with Tennessee Nurses Foundation, Baptist Healing Trust, The Memorial Foundation, The Community Foundation of Greater Memphis, The East Tennessee Foundation, Healthcare Corporation of America Foundation** (Tennessee)
The Nursing Crisis in Tennessee: Building Capacity through Collaboration will expand educational capacity by increasing the number of clinical placement opportunities, enhance the online clinical orientation process, increase the supply of qualified nurse educators and promote a culture for retention by identifying and implementing industry-wide strategies that foster a positive nursing work environment.

More information about *Partners Investing in Nursing's Future* is available at www.PartnersinNursing.org.

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The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation focuses on the pressing health and health care issues facing our country. As the nation's largest philanthropy devoted exclusively to improving the health and health care of all Americans, the Foundation works with a diverse group of organizations and individuals to identify solutions and achieve comprehensive, meaningful and timely change. For more than 30 years the Foundation has brought experience, commitment, and a rigorous, balanced approach to the problems that affect the health and health care of those it serves. When it comes to helping Americans lead healthier lives and get the care they need, the Foundation expects to make a difference in your lifetime.

Founded in 1997, the Northwest Health Foundation is an independent, charitable foundation committed to advancing, supporting and promoting the health of the people of Oregon and southwest Washington. The Foundation focuses on issues of health and health care, seeking concrete solutions to today's health problems while advocating to prevent tomorrow's. As part of NWHF's commitment to cultivate a stable, skilled nursing workforce in the region, the Foundation invests in collaborative and sustainable solutions, including the development of advocacy and leadership within the nursing community.