

Progress Update

APRIL 2005 NEWSLETTER

Access HealthColumbus has helped over 4,500 low-income people access health care by strengthening and expanding our community's health care safety-net



Board of Directors

- R. Reed Fraley (chair)*
Ohio Hospital Association
- Teresa Long, M.D. (vice chair)*
Columbus Health Department
- Philip Cass, Ph.D. (treasurer)*
Columbus Medical Association Foundation

Dianne Biggs (secretary)
United Way of Central Ohio/AFL-CIO

Jack Clark
Children's Hospital

Terri Donlin
Osteopathic Heritage Foundations

John Elam
The Columbus Partnership

Ivery Foreman
Vorys, Sater, Seymour & Pease LLP
United Way of Central Ohio

Thomas Hadley
Acordia
Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce

Sister Barbara Hahl
Mount Carmel Health Systems

Patrick Lay
Columbus Neighborhood Health Center

Elizabeth Lottes, D.O.
Columbus Academy of Osteopathic
Medicine

Dorothy McKay
South Side Settlement House
Consumer Representative

Michael Mishkind, M.D.
Columbus Medical Association Representative

Karen Morrison
OhioHealth

Richard Nelson, M.D.
Columbus Medical Association Representative

Mark Phelan
Nationwide Financial
Franklin County Commissioners Representative

Kamilla Sigafos
The Ohio State University Medical Center

Carol Stewart
Community Activist
Consumer Representative

The Honorable Charleta Tavares
Columbus City Council
City of Columbus Representative

Jeff Biehl
AHC, Executive Director

Return on Community Investment: For every \$1 invested by the community in Access HealthColumbus' public-private partnership, over \$5 in coordinated health care services are provided – a return on community investment of 500%.

RESULTS TO DATE

- **Voluntary Care Network:** a collaborative effort to match low-income/uninsured people with medical homes (primary care) and coordinate access to specialty, diagnostic, and hospital services. Access to low/no-cost medical interpreters, transportation, and prescription drugs services are also coordinated. Doctors and hospitals pledge voluntary care and Access HealthColumbus' care coordinators assist enrolled clients navigate the health care network.

January 2004 through March 2005

Clients currently enrolled	1,707
Clients served	2,712
Clients with new medical homes: (reporting no regular source of health care)	1,933
Clients enrolled in public/private insurance:	136
Doctors participating in the program:	613
Hospitals participating in the program:	11
Client no-show rate (reported for initial appointments):	6.6%
Transportation services coordinated:	2,735
Medical interpreter services coordinated:	180
Prescription drugs coordinated:	11,348
Value of Services Coordinated*:	\$4,438,933

* financial value of voluntary medical care and subsidized services supported by public-private partnership

Our incremental approach is improving access to health care one person at a time. As a reminder, eligibility criteria require a patient to be uninsured; with family incomes up to 200% of the federal poverty level; and residing on the Southside (43205, 43206, 43207) and near Westside (43204, 43215, 43222, 43223). For more information, please call 614-884-2441.

ACCESS HEALTHCOLUMBUS APPRECIATES THE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROVIDED BY PARTICIPATING DOCTORS, HOSPITALS AND THEIR STAFF.

STRENGTHENING THE HEALTH CARE SAFETY-NET ACTIVITY SUMMARY

- 2005 Primary Care Expansion Grants: One-time “seed” grants awarded to seven organizations to increase access to primary care, dental, and vision for over 3,700 low-income patients on the Southside and near Westside (over next 18 months).
- 2004 Primary Care Expansion Grants: One-time “seed” grants expanded the health care safety-net for over 2,000 low-income people.
- 2004 Vision Expansion Grant: One-time “seed” grant expanded access to vision services for over 1,000 low-income people.
- Affordable Prescription Drugs: In addition to 11,348 prescriptions drugs coordinated in the Voluntary Care Network, another 368 low-income uninsured people are receiving low-cost prescription drugs via the *Prescription for Good Health* program.
- Access HealthColumbus recognizes and supports the Columbus Neighborhood Health Center (CNHC) as a cornerstone of the health care safety-net:
 - Over \$200,000 in Medicare reimbursements has been recovered for CNHC;
 - Completed CNHC Facility Feasibility Study and authored report to the community;
 - Completed CNHC Operational Assessment and authored report to the community;
 - Supporting implementation of CNHC operational improvements with onsite project manager.

Access HealthColumbus appreciates the following individuals and organizations for their collaboration and community service.

- The *Leadership Columbus (Class of 2005) Group of Janet Berardi* (Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission), **Luke Brown** (Children’s Hospital), **Frank Carsonie** (Benesch Friedlander Coplan & Aronoff LLP), **Rachel Seeley** (DASCO Home Medical Equipment) and **Todd Williams** (Huntington Bank) is collaborating with the CNHC on establishing a

resource development plan.

- The *Ohio Optometry Association* (**Richard Cornett, Linda Fette, William Lay, O.D., Karen Riccio, O.D.**) and the *Ohio Ophthalmological Society* (**Todd Baker, Thomas Mauger, M.D.**) for partnering to recruit optometrists and ophthalmologists for the Voluntary Care Network.
- **Rosati Windows** and owner **Mike Rosati** for the financial gift to support the *Prescription for Good Health* program.
- **Jan Arthur** (Children’s Hospital), **Lauren Green-Caldwell** (The Ohio State University Medical Center), **Russ Kennedy** (Mount Carmel Health System), **Amy Peach** (OhioHealth), and **Gary Stelluti** (Columbus Medical Association) for their service on the Access HealthColumbus communications committee.
- **Fahlgren associates Amy Dawson, John Kirk, Mike Exner, and Tim Shoaf** for their in-kind services on the development of the National Doctor’s Day ad that appeared in *The Columbus Dispatch* on March 30, 2005.

Value of Public-Private Partnerships

- With no major national policy intervention to expand insurance coverage and strengthen the health care safety net on the short-term horizon, the ability of communities to address this growing crisis is critical.
- Public-Private Partnerships are by no means a substitute for state or national reform. But they can help make health care services available to low-income people, improve health outcomes and thereby reduce costs in the long run, as well as strengthen and expand the health care safety-net.
- Public-Private Partnerships also serve as the testing ground for broad-based reform until coverage initiatives are implemented.

Major funding provided by:

Additional funding provided by:



Columbus Medical Association Foundation



Osteopathic Heritage Foundations



The Columbus Foundation



Dept. of Health & Human Svcs.



Franklin County



City of Columbus