

**BCBSMA FOUNDATION 2007 AWARDS**  
*Connecting Consumers with Care – Grant Summaries*

The *Connecting Consumers with Care* program supports Massachusetts community-based organizations, community health centers and select hospital-based programs to help low-income consumers enroll in MassHealth, Commonwealth Care Health Insurance Program, and other public and private health access programs; navigate the health care system; and connect with providers. The grantees represent strong models for comprehensive outreach, enrollment, post-enrollment assistance, and case management services. This year the grants total \$490,000 and range from \$20,000 to \$25,000.

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**African Community Health Initiatives (ACHI)**

Collaborators: Boston Medical Center, Cambridge Health Alliance, Massachusetts General Hospital – Chelsea, Brockton Neighborhood Health Center, Whittier Street Health Center, Dotwell, Catholic Charities, United Nations Association of Greater Boston and Irish Immigrant Center.

*Greater Boston Area, Brockton, Cambridge, Framingham, Lowell, Somerville, Waltham and Worcester*  
\$20,000

Renewed funding supports ACHI's intervention/community referral program which conducts outreach, enrollment and case management to low-income and uninsured African residents. Staff will assess client's needs and coordinate provider services.

**Berkshire Health Systems**

Collaborators: Berkshire Community Health Network and Community Partners

*Central and Southern Berkshire County*  
\$20,000

Renewed funding supports a Healthcare Specialist who conducts: outreach, enrollment, and post-enrollment services for uninsured individuals seeking coverage. The Healthcare Specialist will work with individuals who are newly eligible for the public insurance products and also with individuals who may not be eligible but still need assistance in gaining access to care.

**Boston Public Health Commission**

Collaborators: Upham's Corner and Bowdoin Street Community Health Centers, auto shop and nail salon owners, the Health Connection Public Health Van, and Nuestra Comunidad Development Corporation

*Dorchester, Hyde Park, Allston-Brighton, Mattapan, Roxbury, and Chinatown*  
\$25,000

Renewed funding supports the *Health Care Access Project*, which links the Major's Health Line and the "Safe Shops Project," and as they assist low income and immigrant residents obtain state sponsored health insurance products. A Public Health Advocate will focus on providing outreach, enrollment and case management to both auto body shop and nail salon employees who need assistance.

**Brockton Neighborhood Health Center**

Collaborators: Local churches, the Cape Verdean Association, Latin American Health Institute, Salvation Army, and Career Works

*Greater Brockton*  
\$20,000

Renewed funding supports enhancements to an outreach model which provides both traditional enrollment education and a "train the trainer" component. Funding will enable the health center to increase outreach and enrollment staff time and train local community leaders on health reform legislation and provide them with resources to facilitate enrollment and post-enrollment assistance.

## **Cambodian Mutual Assistance of Greater Lowell**

*Lowell, Dracut Chelmsford, Tyngsboro, Billerica, and Tewksbury*

\$20,000

Funding supports the expansion of health access education, outreach, and enrollment services to Cambodian refugees. Community Health Workers will disseminate information about the new health insurance law and will inform low-income consumers about the health insurance options available to them via culturally competent flyers, posters, community forums, and radio and local cable shows.

## **Child Care Resource Center**

Collaborators: Cambridge Health Alliance, Cambridge Housing Authority, Community Partnerships for Children, Health Care for All, Cambridge's Health Children's Task Force, Network Health, Neighborhood Health Plan, Oral Health Task Force.

*Cambridge, Arlington, Belmont, Chelsea, Everett, Newton, Revere, Somerville, and Watertown*

\$20,000

Renewed funding supports a Health Access Project Specialist who conducts outreach and enrollment assistance to low and moderate-income consumers; eligible children in day care centers; and child-care program staff. The Specialist will also help with health care system navigation and case management.

## **Community Action Committee of Cape Cod & Islands, Inc.**

Collaborators: Vineyard Healthcare Access, Nantucket Health and Human Services, Visiting Nurse Association of Cape Cod, Cape Cod Diabetes Collaborative, fifty schools and the Falmouth Service Center.

*Cape Cod and Islands*

\$25,000

Funding supports an Outreach Educator to serve low and middle income residents as well as non-English speakers who lack health insurance. The Outreach Educator will join the Visiting Nurse Association Mobile Van team to conduct outreach, advocacy and enrollment assistance into MassHealth and Commonwealth Care Programs.

## **Community Health Connections, Family Health Center, Inc.**

*Fitchburg, Leominster, and the surrounding rural communities of North Worcester County*

\$20,000

Renewed funding supports a bilingual Outreach Case Manager to identify and serve low income and uninsured clients seeking coverage. The Outreach Case Manager will assist clients in understanding their eligibility status, enroll into a state insurance plan, maintain their MassHealth or Commonwealth Care coverage, choose a medical home, and access their needed medical, dental, and mental health care.

## **Duffy Health Center**

*Barnstable County*

\$20,000

Renewed funding supports the strengthening of the center's outreach and benefits assistance capacity. A Benefits Case Manager will work with a Medical Mobile team to engage and build trust with homeless individuals who need assistance in enrolling into MassHealth and Commonwealth Care plans. She will also secure medical homes for clients by directly connecting them to the health center's providers and specialists.

## **Franklin Community Action Corporation**

*Franklin and Hampshire Counties and the North Quabbin Region*

\$20,000

Renewed funding supports the *Healthy Connections* program, which facilitates health access to low and moderate income individuals. The program provides eligibility screening, education, post-enrollment follow-up, referral, and advocacy efforts serving as the region's local health access expert during health reform.

**Joint Committee for Children’s Health Care in Everett**

Collaborators: City of Everett, Cambridge Health Alliance, Everett Public Schools, Everett Chamber of Commerce, Healthy Malden, Healthy Families, City of Malden

*Everett, Revere, Chelsea, Somerville and Malden*

\$25,000

Renewed funding supports the utilization of health care services for children and families seeking assistance. The program will also conduct a culturally competent outreach and enrollment campaign focusing on low-income Latino, Brazilian, and Haitian consumers who require information about the new Commonwealth Care program and the MassHealth eligibility threshold.

**Joseph M. Smith Community Health Center**

Collaborators: Allston/Brighton Resource Center, Brookline Senior Center, Centro Comunitario Brasileiro, Commonwealth Tenants Association housing development, Community United for Health and Prevention, Crittenton Greater Boston Chinese Golden Age Center, Hair Trends Beauty Shop, Jewish Family and Children’s Services, Johnson Drug, Oak Square YMCA, Rincon Guatemalteco Bakery, Sacred Heart Church food pantry, Sandra’s Lodge Homeless Shelter, Waltham Boys and Girls Club, Waltham Free Clinic and Waltham Public Schools.

*Waltham and Allston-Brighton*

\$25,000

Renewed funding supports the *Access to Benefits and Care* program, which provides community-based, culturally competent outreach, enrollment and case management. Multi-lingual community health workers will enroll low-income, minority, immigrant and uninsured consumers into MassHealth, Commonwealth Care, and other insurance programs, and connect them with primary care and other services at the health center.

**Manet Community Health Center**

*Quincy, Weymouth, Hull, Randolph, Rockland, Holbrook, Cohasset, Abington and Scituate*

\$20,000

Funding supports the expansion of outreach efforts to the growing Brazilian, Chinese and Vietnamese communities of the South Shore. Staff will conduct outreach to unemployed, self-employed and uninsured consumers and will assist consumers with enrollment into MassHealth and Commonwealth Care programs.

**Massachusetts Alliance of Portuguese Speakers**

Collaborators: Upham’s Corner Health Center and St. Elizabeth’s Hospital

*Greater Boston, Lowell and Framingham*

\$20,000

Renewed funding supports efforts connecting the Brazilian and Cape Verdean communities to health care services through the provision of culturally and linguistically appropriate assistance. Immigrant case workers will provide outreach, community education, referrals to health care services, eligibility assistance, and system navigation.

**Mercy Hospital**

Collaborators: Mental Health Associates, Friends of the Homeless, Vietnamese American Civic Association

*Hampden, Hampshire, and Franklin Counties*

\$20,000

Renewed funding supports the provision of ongoing assistance, education, and case management to homeless and Vietnamese individuals, enrolling them into MassHealth with and connecting them with comprehensive health services. An advocate will also assist clients by serving as a liaison with health care providers, and will share information about barriers to access with policymakers, providers, and other stakeholders.

**Outer Cape Health Services, Inc.**

*Provincetown, Truro, Wellfleet, Eastham, Orleans, Brewster, Harwich, and Chatham*

\$25,000

Renewed funding supports outreach and enrollment services to uninsured and underinsured clients. The *Healthy Connections* program will provide individualized eligibility assistance and systems navigation to consumers seeking insurance coverage.

**People Acting in Community Endeavors, Inc.**

*New Bedford, Acushnet, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, Rochester, Mattapoisett and Marion*

\$20,000

Funding supports expanded outreach, education and post-enrollment efforts to residents of the Greater New Bedford area. Staff will link low-wage workers, underemployed people, Portuguese speakers and long-term unemployed individuals to health care coverage.

**South Middlesex Legal Services, Inc.**

*Acton, Ashland, Bedford, Bellingham, Carlisle, Concord, Dedham, Dover, Foxborough, Framingham, Franklin, Holliston, Hopkinton, Hudson, Lexington, Lincoln, Marlborough, Maynard, Medfield, Medway, Millis, Natick, Needham, Norfolk, Norwood, Plainville, Sharon, Sherborn, Stow, Sudbury, Walpole, Wayland, Wellesley, Weston, Westwood and Wrentham*

\$20,000

Funding supports outreach and enrollment assistance to: low-income, disabled and elderly individuals needing access to health care coverage. Staff will assist uninsured or underinsured consumers gain coverage – from application to appeal, including post-enrollment assistance.

**Springfield Partners for Community Action**

Collaborators: Small Smiles Dental Services, the American Cancer Society, the Caring Health Center, Heart to Heart Women’s Fellowship, the Massachusetts Senior Action Council, Target, Hunger Springfield, the Vietnamese American Civic Association and the Mason Square Farmer’s Market.

*Springfield with a focus on the Indian Orchard Neighborhood*

\$20,000

Funding supports the expansion of outreach and enrollment assistance to clients seeking access to health care by community health workers. Community health workers will assist clients with all the necessary steps to apply for health coverage, as well as assist in addressing client’s access barriers, including transportation, translation and coordination of services.

**Springfield Vietnamese Civic Association**

*Springfield, West Springfield, Agawam and Holyoke*

\$20,000

Funding supports efforts to increase Vietnamese refugees’ and immigrants’ awareness and understanding of health reform through a culturally competent outreach and education campaign. A case manager will assist individuals with applying for health coverage and help them navigate the health care system.

**Stanley Street Treatment & Resources, Inc.**

Collaborators: Health Access Collaborative of Southeastern Massachusetts

*Greater Fall River, including the towns of Somerset, Swansea, Westport, Assonet and Freetown*

\$20,000

Funding enhances the *Health Access Program* which helps low-income and uninsured individuals enroll into state sponsored health insurance products. Staff will focus on conducting outreach to area shelters and detoxification centers with the goal of reaching clients with substance abuse/behavioral health diagnosis.

**Steppingstone, Inc.**

*Greater Fall River*

\$20,000

Renewed funding supports *Project ACTION*. The program conducts outreach, screening and enrollment assistance to low income and uninsured substance abuse patients seeking health insurance coverage. Staff will also connect clients with medical and mental health care services, provide case-managed coordination of treatment and assist with insurance re-determinations.

**Tapestry Health**

*Franklin, Hampshire, Berkshire and Hampden Counties as well as the North Quabbin Region*

\$20,000

Renewed funding supports outreach and marketing efforts to inform western Massachusetts residents and human service providers of eligibility requirements and enrollment opportunities for MassHealth, Commonwealth Care, and other state insurance programs. In addition, the program provides clients with eligibility screenings and re-determination support, health care system navigation, and supportive health care referrals.