

**BCBSMA FOUNDATION 2001 GRANT AWARDS**  
*Strengthening the Voice for Access – Grant Summaries*

Grants in the **Strengthening the Voice for Access** area will help promote the interests of uninsured and low-income residents across Massachusetts. Funding will strengthen community-based policy activities, increase consumer participation in public policy development, and promote collaboration among policy and advocacy organizations. The grant range in this category was \$20,000 to \$50,000.

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**Health Care For All**

\$50,000

Funds the *Health Care and Policy Leadership Project* to build policy capacity, develop options for health coverage expansion and create a Health Care Leadership Network to assist community leaders in their collaborative efforts to help uninsured and underserved residents.

**Latin American Health Institute**

\$50,000

Supports the *Latin American Public Health Council*, a collaborative effort to increase Latin American participation in health care advocacy efforts and develop an agenda to eliminate disparities and reduce the number of uninsured Latin Americans.

**Massachusetts Housing and Shelter Alliance**

\$50,000

Supports a new statewide initiative to promote the health care interests of disabled homeless people, resulting in strategies and policy initiatives that address their unmet needs.

**Mass. League of Community Health Centers**

\$50,000

Support for *Community Advocacy for Change*, which will strengthen the ability of community health center boards and other community-based advocates to respond to health policy changes that affect health centers and patient access to community-based services.

**Mass. Immigrant & Refugee Advocacy Coalition**

\$43,000

Funding to adapt and expand the *Immigrant Health Care Access Project* to Southeastern and Central Massachusetts to increase immigrants' access to care by engaging them in policy initiatives, and training community organizations and providers in these regions.

**Massachusetts Senior Action Council**

\$40,000

Support for the *Campaign for Affordable Medications*, an initiative to increase civic activism and participation of seniors in efforts to lower the costs of prescription drugs.

**Paraprofessional Health Care Institute**

\$40,000

Supports the *Health Insurance for Health Care Workers* initiative to develop and promote principles and a policy framework to expand access to health insurance for direct care workers.

**Women's Educational and Industrial Union**

\$35,000

Funding for development of a *Health Sufficiency Standard* to create awareness of the costs of health care and illness, and support advocacy for policies to ensure access to health care for all women and families in Massachusetts.

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**AHEC/Community Partners**  
\$30,000

Funding to convene community forums on key programmatic issues affecting health care access, (similar to their *Health Access Network*), and develop reports outlining community perspectives to inform policy and program implementation.

**Health Law Advocates**  
\$25,000

Support for the *Health Care Justice for the Uninsured* project which will continue to organize a statewide health care legal network to provide free legal services for vulnerable people who have been denied access to services, and to organize and represent community coalitions.

**Ad Hoc Committee to Defend Health Care**  
\$20,000

Funding for an assessment of the provider perspective on the current health care environment and development of a presentation on health care reform to stimulate debate and engage the public.

**United Way of Massachusetts Bay**  
\$20,000

Support for policy research, community mobilization and education in order to expand access to health insurance for uninsured child care workers in Massachusetts.

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