



## CONTACTS:

**Sheila Fey** on behalf of  
Neighborhood Health Plan  
617-933-5278  
sfey@solomonmccown.com

**Rich Copp**  
Partners HealthCare  
617-278-1031  
rcopp@partners.org

**Kerin O'Toole**  
Massachusetts League of  
Community Health Centers  
617-988-2241  
kotoole@massleague.org

## FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION

### **Neighborhood Health Plan, Partners HealthCare, and the Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers Announce \$6 Million in Grants for CHCs**

*Excellence and Innovation grants part of the Partnership for Community Health's long-term commitment to community health centers*

**June 4, 2014 (Boston)** —The *Partnership for Community Health*, an initiative of Neighborhood Health Plan and Partners HealthCare in partnership with the Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers, announced it has awarded \$6 million in its second round of Excellence and Innovation grants for community health centers (CHCs).

The 35 CHC grant recipients from across Massachusetts were announced today at Fenway Community Health Center in Boston as the next phase of *the Partnership's* 15-year grant program, which will provide up to \$90 million for Massachusetts community health centers.

Launched in 2012, the program is designed to support the continued efforts of community health centers to reduce barriers to access, promote health equity, and provide care for patients in their communities. The new grants will support ground-breaking efforts to increase patient use of interactive health technology and develop shared services and shared data capacity across multiple health centers – all with the aim of lowering costs while improving patient care.

“Community health centers play a critical role in caring for Massachusetts residents and our members,” said Neighborhood Health Plan President and CEO Deborah C. Enos. “The Excellence and Innovation grants will help CHCs develop state-of-the-art infrastructure and transform their operations as they continue serving the diverse needs of our communities in dynamic new ways.”



FOUNDED BY BRIGHAM AND WOMEN'S HOSPITAL  
AND MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL

*An initiative of Neighborhood Health Plan  
and Partners HealthCare to support  
Community Health Centers*

“These grants help to support and accelerate important innovations in health care – the type of innovations that can improve access, coordination, and slow cost growth,” said Gary L. Gottlieb, MD President and CEO of Partners HealthCare. “And, we know that some of the best and most transformative innovations in patient-centered care are developed at our community health centers right here in Massachusetts.”

“This level of private investment in community health centers is unprecedented – both locally and nationally,” said League President and CEO James W. Hunt, Jr. “Equally important, the longevity and vision of this initiative will help to sustain and expand primary care innovation for generations of Massachusetts residents across the health center network and beyond.”

Following a competitive application process, 14 grantees were selected for individual, collaborative multi-organizational, or development grants. For example, Fenway Community Health Center will use its \$472,396 individual grant to engage patients and improve the capture of patient-reported information during the patient visit. Using iPads, patients will be prompted to answer questions about their concerns and changes in health status since their last visit. When the medical provider arrives in the exam room, the patient and provider will discuss the information together. The data is then “pushed” directly into the patient’s electronic medical record (EMR).

Fenway Community Health Center will also join with five other health centers in a \$824,942 multi-organization grant to create a central repository for health care quality, utilization and cost data. The shared database will help the centers better identify cost-effective approaches for providing quality care, and strengthen their capacity for evaluating and managing risk arrangements under emerging payment reform models.

“Early studies point to the effectiveness of using technology for patient reporting,” said Fenway Community Health Center Medical Director Alex Gonzalez. “In many cases, the technology helps to elicit more accurate and detailed responses from patients about a range of topics, including physical symptoms, depression, substance abuse, and domestic violence.”

The Excellence and Innovation grant recipients are listed below:

- [Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program](#)
- [Bowdoin Street Health Center](#)
- [Brockton Neighborhood Health Center](#)
- [Brookside Community Health Center](#)
- [Codman Square Health Center](#)
- [Community Health Center of Cape Cod](#)
- [Community Health Center of Franklin County](#)
- [Community Health Connections](#)
- [Community Health Programs](#)
- [The Dimock Community Health Center](#)
- [Dorchester House Multi-Service Center](#)
- [Duffy Health Center](#)
- [East Boston Neighborhood Health Center](#)
- [Edward M. Kennedy Community Health Center](#)
- [The Family HealthCare Center at SSTAR](#)

- [Family Health Center of Worcester](#)
- [Fenway Community Health Center](#)
- [Greater Lawrence Family Health Center](#)
- [Greater New Bedford Community Health Center](#)
- [Greater Roslindale Medical & Dental Center](#)
- [Harbor Health Services](#)
- [Hilltown Community Health Centers](#)
- [Holyoke Health Center](#)
- [Island Health Care](#)
- [Joseph M. Smith Community Health Center](#)
- [Lowell Community Health Center](#)
- [Lynn Community Health Center](#)
- [Manet Community Health Center](#)
- [Mattapan Community Health Center](#)
- [North Shore Community Health](#)
- [Outer Cape Health Services](#)
- [South Boston Community Health Center](#)
- [South Cove Community Health Center](#)
- [South End Community Health Center](#)
- [Upham's Corner Health Center](#)

## About Neighborhood Health Plan

Neighborhood Health Plan (NHP) ([www.nhp.org](http://www.nhp.org)) is an NCQA-accredited, not-for-profit health plan that provides coverage to over 300,000 commercial and MassHealth members. For more than 25 years, employers, individuals, and families across Massachusetts have turned to NHP for health care coverage that is both high-quality and affordable. NHP is known for plans that are easy-to-understand and manage. Members have access to a robust network of top doctors, community health centers, and academic and regional hospitals. Founded in 1986 with a commitment to promote health equity for members within the diverse communities we serve, NHP's service and care management programs today continue the tradition of personalized and high-quality care. NHP is a member of Partners HealthCare.

## About Partners HealthCare

Partners HealthCare is an integrated health care system, founded by Brigham and Women's Hospital and Massachusetts General Hospital, that offers patients a continuum of coordinated and high-quality care. In addition to its two academic medical centers, the Partners system includes community and specialty hospitals, a managed care organization, a physician network, community health centers, home health and long-term care services, and other health care entities. Partners HealthCare is committed to patient care, research, teaching, and service to the community. Partners is one of the nation's leading biomedical research organizations and is a principal teaching affiliate of Harvard Medical School. Partners HealthCare is a non-profit organization.

## **About the Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers**

Established in 1972, the Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers (“the League”) is the statewide association representing and serving the needs of the state’s 49 community health centers through grassroots advocacy; technical assistance with state and federal health regulatory and policy issues; promotion and management of clinical quality initiatives; training and education for administrators, clinicians and board members; help with health center technology development; and work with local health advocacy organizations seeking to open health centers in their communities. The League also serves as an information source on community-based health care to policymakers, opinion leaders and the media.