

FEBRUARY 2006 NEWSLETTER

BY STRENGTHENING AND EXPANDING OUR COMMUNITY'S HEALTH CARE SAFETY-NET, ACCESS HEALTHCOLUMBUS IS HELPING OVER 9,500** LOW-INCOME PEOPLE ACCESS HEALTH CARE

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Jeff Biehl
AHC, Executive Director

RESULTS TO DATE

[January 1, 2004 through January 31, 2006]

| | | |
|--|---|--------------|
| Voluntary Care Network | ▪ Low-income uninsured people served: | 3,911 |
| | ▪ Doctors participating: | 767 |
| | ▪ Hospitals participating: | 12 |
| | ▪ Prescription drugs coordinated: | 35,182 |
| | ▪ Transportation services coordinated: | 5,115 |
| | ▪ Medical interpreter services coordinated: | 344 |
| | ▪ Clients (patients) who acquired insurance coverage: | 240 |
| | ▪ Client (patient) reported no-show rate: | 6.7% |
| | ▪ Total value of services coordinated: | \$14,765,080 |
| Expansion Activities | ▪ People to be served by expanded primary care capacity: | 8,000 |
| | ▪ Vision care appointments expanded: | 3,900 |
| | ▪ Dental care appointments expanded: | 1,000 |
| | ▪ Prenatal care appointments expanded: | 770 |
| Improvement Activities | ▪ Additional primary care capacity available: | 1,100 |
| | ▪ Assisted health care safety-net provider recover Medicare reimbursements totaling: | \$242,083 |
| | ▪ Prescription for Good Health (helping people enroll in patient assistance programs) | |
| | • Low-income uninsured people served: | 1,383 |
| • Retail value of prescription drugs (annualized): | \$4,195,468 | |

Return on Community Investment

For every \$1 invested by our public-private partners, over \$5 in coordinated health care services are provided. A return on community investment of 500%

** Total people helped is the result of the number of unduplicated individuals served by the increased capacity of our health care safety-net that resulted from the Voluntary Care Network, our primary care expansion projects and our activities to increase capacity.

**ACCESS HEALTHCOLUMBUS MISSION:
To assure access to health care for
vulnerable people in Franklin County**

The Columbus Medical Association Foundation Board of Trustees approved the "intention" to fund Access Health Columbus at \$1,500,000 over the next three years at \$500,000 per year.

"The Board of the Columbus Medical Association Foundation is very pleased with the progress of Access HealthColumbus", said CEO Philip Cass. "Our board supports the work of Access HealthColumbus' public-private partnership in the community. Therefore the Columbus Medical Association Foundation board approved the intention to fund Access HealthColumbus over the next three years."

The first installment of \$500,000 has been approved for 2006 – of which 60% of the funding will support the Voluntary Care Network and 40% will be used to support health care safety-net projects in the community.

**THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS AND
ORGANIZATIONS FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR
PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP
AND COMMUNITY SERVICE**



Kroger's in-kind support is helping us to stretch our allocated funds for prescription drugs to serve clients enrolled in the Voluntary Care Network. Special thanks to **Bill Sheridan, Doug Cornelius, Nader Moawad and Robert Turley.**



Fahlgren/Machine's in-kind support on design and production helped to make our first Community Report a reality. Special thanks to **Bill Black, Troy Allen, Darren Kautz, Heidi Kahrl, Michael Wheatley, Marit Hanson, Kevin Polonofsky, and Melody Shull.**



Access HealthColumbus is piloting a collaborative effort to provide access to affordable prescription eyeglasses for low-income uninsured people enrolled in the Voluntary Care Network. The optical lab operated by **Ohio Penal Industries**, located at the Ohio Reformatory for Women in Marysville, will be manufacturing eyewear prescribed by doctors participating in the Voluntary Care Network. **Select Optical** is providing low-cost frames and **Essilor** is providing low-cost lenses. Special thanks to **Karen Riccio, OD; Don Lepore (Essilor); Chip Lothes (Select Optical); and Thomas Frank (Ohio Penal Industries)** for their time and energy to help us develop this public-private partnership.

Access HealthColumbus appreciates the efforts of the 767 doctors, 12 hospitals, and their staff participating in the Voluntary Care Network. Working together, we are improving access to health care for low-income uninsured people and demonstrating what is possible through public-private partnerships.

AFFORDABLE & SUSTAINABLE HEALTH CARE PROJECT

Leadership and major funding from the **Columbus Medical Association Foundation**, with additional support from **Osteopathic Heritage Foundation, and The Columbus Foundation**; and **Access HealthColumbus** has allowed for the beginning of a project to assess the community's readiness to collaborate on affordable and sustainable health care for all people in Franklin County. Information on the work completed to date can be found at the following link:

www.accesshealthcolumbus.org/sustainable

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions please contact **Jeff Biehl, Executive Director** at (614) 884-2440 or jbiehl@accesshealthcolumbus.org.

Major funding provided by:

