



## REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CHARITABLE PHARMACY

*“A demonstration project to learn the value of a charitable pharmacy  
in our community.”*

October 3, 2008

Since 2007, many of you have participated in discussions hosted by Access HealthColumbus about barriers to accessing affordable prescription drugs for vulnerable people in our community.

Access HealthColumbus is issuing a request for information to non-profit organizations that are interested in designing and operating a charitable pharmacy in our community.

The Charitable Pharmacy Initiative is intended to improve access to affordable prescription drugs to the uninsured and underinsured through a pharmacy of last resort. Charitable pharmacies are now operating in Cincinnati, Dayton, and Akron.

Under a charitable license, a pharmacy is be able to receive donated bulk medications from pharmaceutical companies, long-term care pharmacies, wholesale pharmaceutical distributors and other designated groups. A charitable pharmacy can assist individuals who:

- ◆ Need to fill prescriptions for high-cost, brand name drugs that there is not a generic therapeutic alternative
- ◆ Need to bridge the gap while getting connected to other existing programs
- ◆ Cannot afford \$4.00 generic drugs offered in the community

If your organization is interested in starting up and operating a Charitable Pharmacy Franklin County, please complete our request for information no later than Friday, November 15, 2008.

To learn more about our work around Charitable Pharmacies, please contact Isi Ikharebha at 614-884-2440, ext. 211 or visit our website at [www.accesshealthcolumbus.org](http://www.accesshealthcolumbus.org).

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### **Community Need:**

There is a lack of access to affordable prescription medications for low income uninsured residents of Franklin County. The 2004 Ohio Family Health Survey reported that over 104,000 (insured and uninsured) adults in Franklin County reported having unmet prescription drug health care needs. Individual health care providers in Franklin County may have a program(s) they offer to the patients they provide services to but there remain a number of residents who either cannot access the programs or choose not to access the programs.

### **Overview:**

- Access HealthColumbus' Public-Private Partnership is launching this project in response to a gap in access to affordable prescription drugs in our community.
- Access HealthColumbus' Public-Private Partnership will invest up to \$100,000 in planning and start-up activities.
- For this charitable pharmacy demonstration project, selection criteria will be based on an organization(s) ability to demonstrate the following:
  - ✓ How they provide or support health and/or social services to vulnerable people in Franklin County. Only organizations that serve all people (regardless of age, gender, religion or ethnicity) will be considered.
  - ✓ Their commitment, creativity, and energy in operating a charitable pharmacy;
  - ✓ How they work collaboratively with others in the community;
  - ✓ Develop a large pool of volunteers to support this type of work;
  - ✓ How effectively they use resources to provide services to the community.

### **PROJECT GOAL**

- Increase access to affordable prescription drugs for the uninsured and underinsured individuals in our community.

### **MEASUREABLE OBJECTIVES**

- Primary: To increase the number of affordable prescription drugs available to serve vulnerable people in Franklin County.
- Secondary: Analyze results and document our lessons learned.

### **ACTIVITIES/TIMETABLE**

October 6, 2008

- Issue a Request for Information (RFI)

November 15, 2008

- Review RFI responses
- Conduct interviews with respondents

December 31, 2008

- Identify lead organization who will design and operate the charitable pharmacy for the demonstration project

January 15, 2009

- Begin the design process



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### Section 1 – Organization Data

Fiscal Organization Information	
Organization Name	
Street Address	
City	
State	
Zip Code	
Organization Main Phone (including area code)	
Organization Main Fax (including area code)	
Organization Web site	
President/CEO	

1. What is the mission of your organization?
2. From your organization’s perspective, what is the perceived value of a community charitable pharmacy?
3. How does your organization currently work collaboratively with others to offer services in the community?
4. How does your organization envision a charitable pharmacy being a vital part of the social services that are a part of this community?
5. Has your senior administrative leadership approved participating in a community charitable pharmacy?
6. Have the individual(s) selected to work on the community charitable pharmacy reviewed and accepted the responsibilities listed below?

**RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LEAD ORGANIZATION**

As the lead organization in the design, start-up and on-going operations of a charitable pharmacy you will:

- Identify 1-2 individuals that are passionate about advancing the charitable pharmacy in your organization and our community,
- Commit the required time to participate in frequently scheduled collaborative working sessions.

7. Please provide the name(s) of your representatives:

Last Name		
First Name		
Prefix		
Suffix		
Title/Role in Organization		
Direct E-mail		
Direct Phone, including area code		
Direct Fax, including area code		

8. In the space below, please share any questions or concerns that you have at this time.

Thank you for your time and interest!

Please email your completed Request for Information to Isi Ikharebha at [iikhare@accesshealthcolumbus.org](mailto:iikhare@accesshealthcolumbus.org).