



United Health Foundation

FACT SHEET

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At the United Health Foundation, we are passionate about helping people live healthier lives. We live out this passion through our priorities, our values, and our work in the community.

Our Priorities

The Foundation has four mission-driven priorities:

- To promote and improve community health
- To expand access to quality health care
- To develop the future health workforce
- To improve health care quality and assess its performance

Our Values

We are guided by five values:

- *Innovation*: We work with others to develop next generation solutions to transform the health care system, improve health outcomes, and enhance community well being.
- *Partnership*: By collaborating with others in the community, we achieve more in partnership than we can alone.
- *Results*: We align our philanthropy with the needs of the community. We value sound decision making based on the best evidence. We seek opportunities where all stakeholders can measure results and achieve sustainable solutions.
- *Diversity*: Our work in the community reflects our understanding of the diversity of thoughts, perspectives and the needs of people in the communities we serve.
- *Integrity*: We build constructive relationships with the community by ensuring mutual respect, compassion and confidentiality. We are transparent in our relationships by being clear, consistent and timely in our communications.

Our Work in the Community

To help people live healthier lives we provide reliable information to support health and medical decisions that lead to better health outcomes, we support activities that expand access to quality health care services for those in challenging circumstances and we partner with others to improve the well being of communities.

Our work is carried out through *United for Healthier Communities* grantmaking and operating programs. The next page highlights a sample of these efforts.

United Health Foundation — *United for Healthier Communities*

Promoting and Improving Community Health

America's Health Rankings[™] encourages innovative thinking and prompt action to strengthen our nation's health. *America's Health Rankings*[™] is an annual assessment of the nation's health that shows successes and challenges on a state-by-state basis. The longest running report of its kind, for two decades it has provided insight into how economic, social, policy, clinical and personal conditions in our communities impact health outcomes. Over the past 20 years, *America's Health Rankings*[™] has evolved from a source of information for limited audiences to a robust, interactive tool that urges all populations and communities to take action to improve health. The *Rankings* is published jointly by United Health Foundation, the American Public Health Association and Partnership for Prevention.

Expanding Access to Quality Health Care

To increase access to health care and improve the quality of care for underserved communities, the Foundation's *Community Health Centers of Excellence* initiative supports community health clinics that are part of our nation's health care safety net. These health centers, which provide quality health care services for little or no cost to people in medically underserved communities, include:

- Unity Health Care, to support an underserved community in the Congress Heights/Anacostia area of Washington, D.C.
- New York City-based Children's Health Fund to support outreach to underserved children and families in the Bronx
- Jefferson Reaves Senior Health Center to provide care to the Overtown community in Miami
- EXCELth's Daughters of Charity Health Center-St. Cecilia to serve the Bywater area of New Orleans
- Howard University's College of Dentistry, Washington D.C., to support a model program in dental excellence that expands access to quality dental care for low-income children.

An independent evaluation found that after transitioning to a center of excellence, these clinics deliver care equal to or better than care provided by private-sector health care facilities, despite the challenges their neighborhoods face.

Developing the Future Health Workforce

The goal of the Foundation's *Diverse Scholars Initiative* is to increase the number of qualified, yet under-represented, college graduates entering the health workforce. Scholarships support ethnic, minority and low-income students who are pursuing a degree in a health field. The development of health professionals from diverse, multicultural backgrounds will help improve the quality of culturally competent health care and help close the health disparities gap. In 2009, United Health Foundation provided over \$1,125,000 to nearly 200 students.

Improving Health Care Quality and Assessing its Performance

Advancing Clinical Excellence is an initiative to help physicians and other health professionals achieve the best possible health outcomes for their patients. The Foundation partners with health research agencies, medical specialty societies, and others to translate science into practice and help make available reliable medical evidence.

United Health Foundation was established by UnitedHealth Group (NYSE: UNH) in 1999 as a private nonprofit foundation dedicated to helping people live healthier lives. For more information, visit unitedhealthfoundation.org.