



JHF'S LATEST *HEALTH AFFAIRS* BLOG: AFFORDABLE CARE ACT IS ABOUT MORE THAN JUST EXTENDING HEALTHCARE COVERAGE

PITTSBURGH—August 20, 2010—Karen Wolk Feinstein's latest entry for the *Health Affairs*'s GrantWatch Blog emphasized that The Affordable Care Act is more than a series of provisions extending healthcare coverage to millions of Americans. The law also creates several opportunities for local and regional health foundations to develop fundamental payment and delivery system reforms.

"Even those who had doubts about enacting the Affordable Care Act should be rooting for it to drive major progress on costs and quality of care," says Feinstein, president and CEO of the Jewish Healthcare Foundation.

The inspiration for this new blog entry came from the 2010 Foundations and Healthcare Reform Meeting at Brandeis University. The Jewish Healthcare Foundation, Grantmakers in Health, California Healthcare Foundation and the Commonwealth Fund convened more than 70 people from 60 foundations across the nation to discuss the roles that state and local health foundations can play in advancing health reform. The group discussed several topics including the safety net, delivery system redesign, payment reform, workforce efficiency and consumer education. At the end of the meeting, participants created a list of opportunities to use in their own states and communities.

"A major topic of discussion at Brandeis was the importance of supporting cash-strapped states and safety net organizations to enable them to take advantage of the grants and pilots included in the new federal health reform law," says Feinstein.

Visit <http://healthaffairs.org/blog/grantwatch/> to read the entire blog entry and learn how JHF plans to use the opportunities created by The Affordable Care Act to strengthen the system of care for seniors in southwestern Pennsylvania.

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