

THE WINDOW



A round-up of JHF news, events, milestones, publications, and more.

JHF Lands \$75,000 Grant for HPV Vaccination Initiative

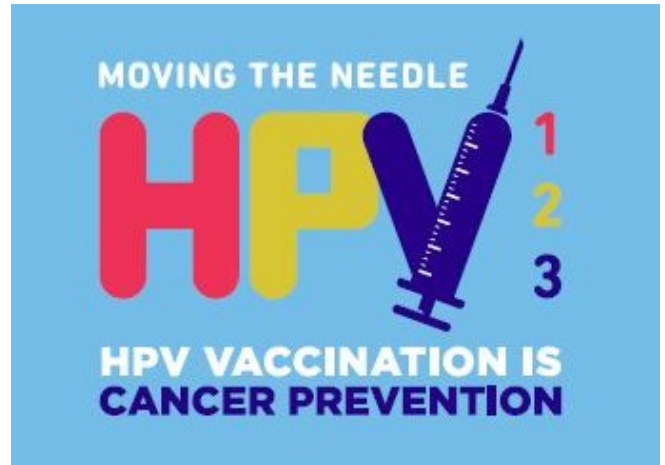
The Jewish Healthcare Foundation (JHF) received a \$75,000 Mobilization for Health: National Prevention Partnership Award (NPPA) from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health to support the Foundation's Human papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccination Initiative. The Initiative brings together myriad individuals and organizations across the region in an effort to increase the rate of HPV vaccination, which remains low even as the rate of HPV-associated cancers climbs.

JHF kicked off the HPV Vaccination Initiative in February, holding the first community education event and convening an advisory committee of more than 40 clinicians, researchers, community organizations, health plans, educators, and County health department leadership. Sub-committees of the advisory are focusing on increasing vaccination rates among pre-teens, teens, and young adults in the Greater Pittsburgh area; collaborating with regional insurance providers to establish data benchmarks for measuring success; and advocating for policy changes that promote uptake of the cancer-preventing HPV vaccine.

JHF has also established a local chapter of Grandmother Power to mobilize activist grandmothers in dozens of communities and provided a grant to the Women and Girls Foundation to conduct teen outreach. The Foundation will provide a number of additional grants to other community organizations, and is working with regional clinical associations and providers to encourage physicians and nurse practitioners to recommend the vaccine.

Certain types of HPV are responsible for the majority of cervical (91 percent), anal (91 percent), vaginal (75 percent), oropharyngeal (72 percent), vulvar (69 percent), and penile (63

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percent) cancers, as well as 90 percent of genital warts cases, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). There is a safe, three-dose HPV vaccine to protect against these cases of cancer and genital warts. The CDC recommends the vaccine for all adolescents aged 11 to 12 years, as well as teens and young adults ages 13-26 who were not vaccinated when they were younger. But a 2013 CDC study found that only 38 percent of girls between ages 13-17 and 14 percent of boys receive all three doses.

The CDC found that physicians do not recommend the HPV vaccine to one-third of age-appropriate girls and more than half of age-appropriate boys. Parents cite a lack of knowledge about the vaccine and safety concerns as reasons for not having their child vaccinated. The HPV Vaccination Initiative seeks to educate and empower the Pittsburgh region so that more children are protected against the potential dangers of the virus, says JHF President and CEO Karen Wolk Feinstein.



"We're building partnerships and collaborating with individuals and organizations representing all community populations," Dr. Feinstein says. "We want to ensure that we improve HPV vaccination rates for pre-teens, teens, and young adults across all social, economic, race, and ethnic boundaries. Our goal is to help our community reach the CDC's national goal of an 80 percent HPV vaccination rate."

In addition to the NPPA grant, JHF has received a \$25,000 grant from The Grable Foundation, a \$10,000 grant from the Eye & Ear Foundation of Pittsburgh, and a \$150,000 grant from the JHF Board of Trustees.

For more information on HPV and the HPV Vaccination Initiative, visit www.jhf.org/projects-and-programs.

Funders Against Campus Rape Forms to Combat Critical Issue

Congress passed the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act in February of 2013, requiring colleges and universities to more rigorously address sexual assault on campus. Colleges across the country rolled out new policies and procedures. But the group was concerned that the changes wouldn't go far enough, and they were hoping the Jewish Healthcare Foundation would get involved.



To address rampant sexual violence on college campuses, leaders from groups including the Eden Hall Foundation, FISA Foundation, Jefferson Foundation, Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh, Jewish Healthcare Foundation, Jewish Women's Foundation, Staunton Farm Foundation, the Heinz Endowments, and The Pittsburgh Foundation have formed *Funders Against Campus Rape*.

On August 21, the Foundation met with Jefferson Foundation Executive Director Mary Phan-Gruber; Delilah Rumburg, CEO of the PA Coalition Against Rape; Pittsburgh Action Against Rape (PAAR) Executive Director Alison Hall; and Tracey Provident, vice president and chief program officer for the Center for Victims.

The statistics on campus sexual violence are alarming. One-quarter to one-fifth of college women will experience rape or attempted rape before graduating. Over the last few months, the issue of violence against women has been in the news almost every day, with the

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controversies over the many NFL players facing domestic violence charges bringing the need to address the issue as a whole to a higher plane.

Never one to ignore a problem for which effective action was not being implemented quickly enough, Karen Feinstein suggested convening all of the foundations in western Pennsylvania. “Money speaks,” Feinstein said, “and if those who collectively give millions to our local institutions tell our colleges and universities that they must do better, and tie their giving to it, then we can make a difference.”

Feinstein called on Grantmakers of Western Pennsylvania Executive Director Barbara Taylor, who put out a call to all members. On September 18, leadership from Eden Hall Foundation, FISA Foundation, Jefferson Foundation, Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh, Jewish Healthcare Foundation, Jewish Womens Foundation, Staunton Farm Foundation, the Heinz Endowments, and The Pittsburgh Foundation gathered to discuss this critical issue.

FISA Foundation Executive Director Kristy Trautmann provided a compelling picture of the magnitude of the issue and the current inadequate response. Too many colleges and universities leave the adjudication of sexual assault allegations in the hands of the school’s internal disciplinary system (which often means the athletic director when allegations involve athletes), and do not turn cases over to local law enforcement. The adjudication process itself is also often cited by accusers as being equally painful as the assault.

“There’s too much bias in the system,” noted PAAR’s Hall. “This leaves the handling of what potentially is a felony offense in the hands of people who aren’t specifically trained to handle sexual assault complaints.”

Ending sexual assault on campus is a current priority for the FISA Foundation. One of the initiatives they’ve funded is PAAR’s “Coaching Boys Into Men,” a program developed by nonprofit organization Futures Without Violence. The program provides training and curriculum for high school and college coaches, empowering them to promote respectful behavior among their players and help to prevent relationship abuse and sexual assault.

The decision of the funders on September 18 was unanimous: they would form a new group, Funders Against

OCTOBER 29 HEALTH 2.0 MEETING TO FOCUS ON CAMPUS SEXUAL VIOLENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

October’s Health 2.0 meeting will focus on campus sexual violence and technology. The session will explore not only the issue (see “*Funders Against Campus Rape* forms to combat critical issue”), but also how technology can be helpful in terms of prevention, advocacy, and outreach.

The program will open with a clip from *Brave Miss World*, a documentary about the journey of a rape victim, followed by short presentations from innovators applying technology to help ameliorate the problem of campus sexual violence. Presenters include:

- **Jayon Wang**, co-founder of Lifeshel. Lifeshel is developing Whistl, an iPhone case that strobes bright lights, sounds a piercing alarm, sends a 911 alert, alerts specified contacts, and activates video and audio recording with just a push of a button;
- Founder and CEO of Talk, The New Sex **Ed Samantha Bushman**; and
- **Barbara Nicholas**, development director at the Women’s Center and Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh, who will describe the *Circle of Six* app.

A panel discussion — moderated by AlphaLab Gear Managing Director Ilana Diamond — features Megan Schroeder from Pittsburgh Action Against Rape (PAAR), Marian Vanek of the University of Pittsburgh Student Health, and Susan Eichenberger, associate professor of Sociology and Women’s studies at Seton Hill University.

Event: Campus Sexual Violence: Technology Solutions

Date: Wednesday, October 29, 2014

Time: 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Location: QI²T Center, Centre City Tower, 650 Smithfield Street, Pgh PA 15222

Register: On the [Health 2.0 Pittsburgh](#) website

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Campus Rape, spearheaded by Trautmann, to take on the issue as a collective.

The very next day, President Obama and Vice President Joe Biden, joined by university presidents and others, announced “It’s On Us,” a campaign against sexual assaults on college campuses. “Campus sexual assault is no longer something we as a nation can turn away from and say, ‘that’s not our problem,’” President Obama said. The message of the campaign: EVERYONE should see it as their responsibility to do something to prevent sexual assault.

The Pittsburgh Jewish Community Center took a stance even earlier, displaying an eight-foot “Pledge to End Gender Violence” banner at their annual meeting on September 9. The goal was to have 500 men sign the pledge. They reached that goal even before the meeting and created an additional banner to capture twice as many pledges.

“I’d like to see our entire community sign this pledge,” Feinstein says. “There are so many elements to be addressed here: preventing violence in the first place by teaching boys at an early age that violence against women is not OK; helping young women prevent sexual assault and understand what to do if they are unable to do so; taking the adjudication process out of the hands of those not qualified to handle it; ensuring that the process is comprehensive and fair to both accused and accuser; and ensuring that victims get the help they need and are not re-victimized by the system.”

“When our community mobilizes,” Feinstein continues, “you can be sure that there will be considerable action. I was not at all surprised about the unanimity of the group, and I am very pleased that Kristy agreed to lead the newly-formed coalition.

“Stay tuned.”

Grandmothers Unite to Learn about HPV Vaccine, Spread Cancer Prevention Message



Sharon Silvestri (center, in apron), RN, chief of the Infectious Diseases Program at the Allegheny County Health Department, shares her group’s ideas to boost HPV vaccination rates by connecting with community organizations and events.

As Velma Griggs looked at the cadre of fellow grandmothers committed to protecting western Pennsylvania’s kids with the cancer-preventing Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine — a group featuring community activists, healthcare professionals, school board members, executives, foundation representatives, and more — she sprang out of her seat.

“There’s so much strength in this room,” Griggs said, as the first-ever meeting of Pittsburgh’s Grandmother Power chapter kicked off on September 19. “I have four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. I’m looking forward to passing along what I learn today so kids in my neighborhood stay healthy.”

Griggs and dozens of other grandmothers are activating Pittsburgh communities as part of a larger, JHF-led initiative to

increase HPV vaccination rates that involves parents, healthcare providers, educators, foundations, youth and neighborhood groups, and policy makers. Grandmother Power members gathered to learn more about HPV, which

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the CDC has identified as a public health threat responsible for 33,000 cervical, vaginal, vulvar, oropharyngeal, penile, and anal cancers in the U.S. each year.

Children can be shielded from a host of HPV-related diseases by receiving the HPV vaccine before being exposed to the virus, but uptake rates are abysmal: just 38 percent of girls and 14 percent of boys complete the three-dose vaccine series.

Following an education session facilitated by Sue Steele, JHF's HPV program coordinator, Grandmother Power members discussed groups they could work with and places they could go to amplify the HPV vaccine's cancer prevention message, including after-school programs, faith-based institutions, athletic associations, city and county government, libraries, and neighborhood groups that organize health fairs and farmer's markets.

HPV VACCINATION INITIATIVE MAKING HEADLINES

[“Grandmother Power Leads Cancer Prevention Campaign at JHF”](#) (NEXTpittsburgh)

[“Shot in the Arm: Jewish Healthcare Foundation raising HPV awareness”](#) (Pittsburgh City Paper)



Grandmother Power members (L-R): Community advocate Margaret Burley; JHF President and CEO Karen Wolk Feinstein; North Hills School Board member Arlene Bender; community advocate Velma Griggs; Mary Anne Poutous, community education director for Adagio Health; Patricia Cluss, PhD, director of STANDING FIRM; Eileen Lane, former president of the Family Health Council (now Adagio Health); community advocates Liz Finegold, Connie Sukernek, Lynette Lederman, and Elaine Krasik; Joyce Penrose, NP, an adjunct associate professor at the University of Pittsburgh's School of Nursing; Sharon Silvestri, RN, chief of the Infectious Diseases Program at the Allegheny County Health Department; lawyer Hilary Spatz, JD; community advocates Barbara Greenberg; and Judy Roscow; Cecile Springer, co-founder of the Women and Girls Foundation; Urban League Project Director Val Chavis; and Sheila Fine, principal founder of LEAD Pittsburgh and a board member of the Fine Foundation, Jewish Healthcare Foundation, and Eye and Ear Foundation.

To help Grandmother Power members educate and galvanize others, each member received a toolkit featuring tip sheets on discussing vaccination with parents and kids, resource lists with vetted information on the HPV virus and vaccine, and a copy of the HPV 101 presentation that Sue Steele provided during the meeting. Grandmothers will share their successful community outreach efforts with the group.

“We can harness the determination, power, and wisdom of the women in this room to ensure the well-being of not just our own grandchildren, but the grandchildren in all of our communities,” said Eileen Lane, former president of the Family Health Council (now Adagio Health) and a Grandmother Power member.

2014 Jonas Salk Fellows Apply Systems Thinking to Longstanding Healthcare Issues

Complex medical and public health challenges — ending pervasive sexual assault on college campuses, preventing hospital-acquired infections, re-engaging people with HIV/AIDS in care, boosting low HPV vaccination rates, helping seniors remain at home — demand a systems-based approach that considers social, environmental, and economic determinants of a community's well-being.

On September 22, JHF welcomed 42 multidisciplinary graduate students who will deploy systems thinking to tackle these paramount issues in health care as part of the 2014 Jonas Salk Fellowship. Fellows from six local schools will develop new solutions to the aforementioned health problems using four problem-solving lenses:

- **Crisis Management**, to generate a sense of urgency, craft a swift response, and know where all players should be in time and space;
- **Disruptive Innovation**, to find a different route to a solution that is simpler and cheaper;
- **Predictive Modeling**, to simulate how the interplay of factors within complex systems affect health outcomes
- **Social Activism**, to realize a positive, hopeful vision through the force of public opinion

The fellows, from Carlow University, Carnegie Mellon University, Chatham University, Duquesne University, the University of Pittsburgh, and Robert Morris University, represent a diverse range of disciplines from clinical practice and research to public health and policy to health administration and business.



Multidisciplinary graduate students selected for the 2014 Jonas Salk Fellowship get to know one another during the first session, held September 22 at the QI²T Center. During the Fellowship, students will also learn first-hand at the Allegheny County Emergency Services Department's situation room and Carnegie Mellon University's Disruptive Health Technology Institute.



JHF President and CEO Karen Wolk Feinstein shares JHF's history with the fellows and tells them that health care needs a "reboot" founded upon systems thinking.

During the first session, fellows introduced themselves and shared their motivation for participating in the Fellowship. Fellows said they joined the program because of the unique opportunity it presents for inter-professional problem-solving and understanding healthcare systems in a broader context than their particular area of study. Eight of the Salk Fellows signed up after positive experiences in the Foundation's QI²T Health Innovators and Patient Safety Fellowships.

Students learned about the history of JHF, the current state of health care, and importance of systems thinking. They also worked in teams to examine contributing factors to their selected healthcare problem.

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JHF President and CEO Karen Feinstein outlined a progression of problem-solving approaches that sought to “reboot” America’s healthcare system, from applying Lean within select settings to adopting a quality improvement culture across care settings to prevent hospitalizations. Despite these efforts, Dr. Feinstein noted that the U.S. still spends more on health care than any other industrialized country and has significantly worse health outcomes.

“It’s time to reboot health care once again,” Feinstein told the fellows. “You, our systems thinkers, can create the sort of high-performing health system that our communities deserve.”

During the next four sessions, fellows will continue developing solutions to their selected health problem. Please join us on Monday, November 24 from 4:00-7:00 pm for the final session, where fellows will present their applications of systems thinking to real-world healthcare issues (invitation to follow).

Art Levine Showcases Pitt Research with Healthcare, Commercial Potential at Health 2.0 Event

The world’s largest collection of zebra fish resides not at the Pittsburgh Zoo, but rather on the fifth floor of the University of Pittsburgh’s Biomedical Sciences Tower 3. There, 500,000-plus freshwater fish — with genomes that are 80 percent identical to humans’ — yield research insights that could save lives during a heart attack.

“Using zebra fish, Michael Tsang [an associate professor of Structural Biology] discovered that heart size is controlled by the replication of heart cells,” said Arthur S. Levine, MD, senior vice chancellor for Health Sciences and dean of the School of Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh. “He found that you can apply a drug to the embryo and block the path that normally inhibits heart growth. Now, we know how to get cardiac stem cells to replicate — and we can replace scar tissue with those stem cells to fix heart damage.”

Healing hearts with aquariums is just one example of the innovative research occurring in Pitt’s Health Sciences department, which Dr. Levine showcased to healthcare professionals, tech enthusiasts, and students during a September 17 meeting of Health 2.0 Pittsburgh at the QI²T Center.

Pitt’s explorations are “a pastiche of science and its application to drugs, vaccines, devices, and manipulation of tissue — things that possess immediate healthcare and commercial applications,” Dr. Levine said. Pitt’s research also personifies a revolution in medicine, defined by four convergent themes: personalized medicine, advanced imaging, big data, and health reform.

“We’re in an era where the opportunities in science have never been more profound,” Dr. Levine said. “With



In the University of Pittsburgh’s Biomedical Sciences Tower, “data from scientists walks up the air shaft and diffuses vaccine discovery and drug development,” says Arthur S. Levine, MD, senior vice chancellor for Health Sciences and dean of the School of Medicine at Pitt.

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technology evolving so rapidly, we've learned more about the biology of the human condition in the last 25 years than we ever knew previously."

One such breakthrough is genomic sequencing, which Dr. Levine said can be used to diagnose, treat, and ultimately prevent diseases based on individual characteristics. Current drug therapies and disease treatments use a more generalized approach that works for most patients, but may miss those on the ends of the bell curve.

"We treat cancer, for example, as a population average," Dr. Levine said. "Most everyone gets the same intense chemotherapy. Think of how much better it would be if we knew from the patient's genome which drugs they could actually metabolize and what the tumor could actually respond to. We could treat patients more humanely, and at a greatly lower cost."

Selected Products Based on University of Pittsburgh Research



Over 100 start-up companies have been launched through the University of Pittsburgh, Dr. Levine noted during his Health 2.0 presentation.

To date, about 4,500 out of 23,000 human genes have been associated with a disease or disorder, most of which are single-cell mutations. Next-generation sequencing could uncover more complex mutations without racking up large medical bills.

"By next year, we'll be able to sequence your entire genome for \$1,000," Dr. Levine said. "That's the same price as an MRI. The first person who had his genome sequenced was Jim Watson, of Watson and Crick, twelve years ago. It cost \$10 million."

A team led by D. Lansing Taylor, PhD, director of Pitt's Drug Discovery Institute, is developing artificial organs in miniature to better predict how individuals respond to certain drugs. They replicated a liver on an eight millimeter chip that contains the organ's main four cell types, and have applied compounds to cells to see how they react on a molecular level. Pitt can then pool the results of those trials to rapidly develop drugs with a higher success rate and a lower cost, Dr. Levine noted.

More western Pennsylvanians may receive desperately needed organ transplants thanks to a pre-surgery preservation technique developed by Paulo Fontes, MD, associate professor of surgery at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. Dr. Fontes and his team created a solution of oxygenated water and hemoglobin that is combined with machine perfusion to transport organs prior to surgery. The technique extends the amount of time that organs remain viable prior to surgery compared to transporting organs in ice.

"This means we can take organs of a lesser quality that are often rejected by other centers and use them successfully for transplants in Pittsburgh," Dr. Levine said.

Dr. Levine, who maintains an active research laboratory, was appointed to the first endowed Dean's chair in the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine's 128-year history earlier this year. JHF made a significant contribution to help establish the John and Gertrude Peterson Dean of Medicine chair. He has played an integral role in the University of Pittsburgh's rise to fifth place in National Institutes of Health (NIH) research funding — and that

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research is increasingly translating into homegrown companies and products.

In 1996, Pitt was issued ten patents for technology products. In 2014, Pitt garnered 74 technology-related patents. Between 1996 and 2014, Pitt has received a total of 615 technology patents that have generated a combined \$133.4 million in licensing revenue. A recent example is Vizamyl, an injectable compound drug used during a PET brain scan to visualize beta amyloid, a protein thought to influence the development of Alzheimer's disease.

The drug, developed by William E. Klunk, MD, PhD, professor of Psychiatry and Neurology and Chester Mathis, PhD, professor of Radiology, is the first non-invasive diagnostic test for the most common type of dementia, which afflicts over five million Americans.

"It's a way of finding that protein in the brain before patients are symptomatic," Dr. Levine said. "If we can identify it at that point, then we can eventually find a way to prevent this illness in the first place."

Center for Health Information Activation (CHIA) Featured in Health Affairs

On Health Affairs' GrantWatch blog, Karen Feinstein highlights how the Foundation's new Center for Health Information Activation (CHIA) will facilitate meaningful partnerships between providers and patients who are taking control of their care.

"I envision activated patients who are responsible for defining, implementing, and advancing their own health goals in collaboration with a willing primary care provider," Feinstein says in the blog post. "CHIA will advance the application of credible information, appropriately, by consumers and their families to establish and manage their health goals."



Click [here](#) to read the full article. To learn more about CHIA, please visit pachia.org.

Stakeholders Celebrate Two Successful Years, Plan for Project's Second Half during RAVEN Education Leadership Day

On September 10, JHF's long-term care team joined leaders from area skilled nursing facilities, the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC), and Robert Morris University at the second annual [RAVEN](#) Education Leadership Day. JHF is providing frontline staff with intensive quality improvement and palliative care training and coaching through RAVEN, a four-year initiative funded by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid to reduce avoidable rehospitalizations at 19 western Pennsylvania skilled nursing facilities.

The Leadership Day gave nursing home administrators, directors of nursing, and others from participating facilities an opportunity to network, strategize, discuss their facilities' readmissions data, and engage in an interactive discussion on best practices led by JHF Chief Operating Officer and Chief Program Officer Nancy Zions. RAVEN stakeholders also took part in a "speed-dating" game, answering rapid-fire questions on what makes their facility unique, highlighting success stories and remaining goals, and setting up future "dates" with other facilities.

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(L-R) Senior Quality Improvement Specialist Maureen Saxon Gioia, RN, BSN; Quality Improvement Specialist Terri Devereaux, MPM, FNP-BC; Chief Operating and Program Officer Nancy Zionts; Policy and Program Associate Neil Dermody, JD, MPA; and Consultant Tamara Sacks, MD, highlight JHF's *Closure* initiative during RAVEN Leadership Education Day.

Many participants noted that they have improved communication with condition-specific SBAR (Situation, Background, Assessment, Recommendation) tools. SBARs allow nurses to collect pertinent information for physicians on conditions that frequently lead to hospitalizations from long-term care facilities. Staff are also engaging more residents and families in conversations about Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment (POLST), which summarizes a patient's care

preferences in clear, actionable medical orders that transfer across care settings. Moving forward, facilities expressed interest in bolstering ties with community hospitals, area agencies on aging, and departments of health.

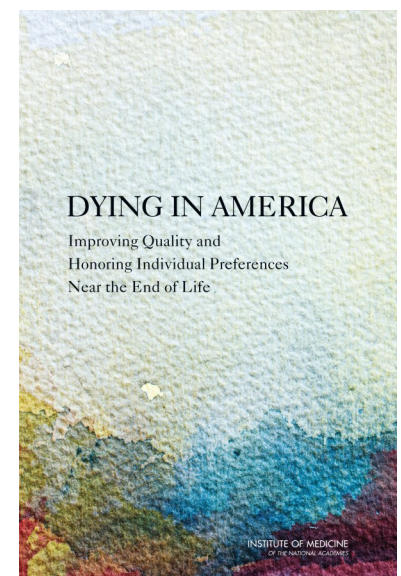
Five nursing facilities took home awards for their achievements during the first half of the RAVEN project. Brevillier Village (Ball Pavilion) was recognized for its work in palliative care; Kane Regional Centers — Ross Township for implementing INTERACT (Interventions to Reduce Acute Care Transfers) tools; Oakwood Heights for quality improvement; Squirrel Hill Center for Rehabilitation and Healing for advancing telemedicine; and Trinity Living Center for advancing pharmacy integration.

IOM Report: End-of-Life Care Often Fails Patients, Loved Ones

End-of-life treatment in the United States too often fails to honor patients' and families' care goals, according to a newly-released Institute of Medicine (IOM) report. In "Dying in America: Improving Quality and Honoring Individual Preferences Near the End of Life," the 21-member IOM committee concludes that the current healthcare system suffers from a shortage of doctors trained in palliative care, limited communication between families and providers about care preferences, and a payment system that incentivizes treatment in acute-care settings.

To align end-of-life care with patients' and families' wishes, the IOM committee recommends a "life cycle model" in which patients regularly engage in advanced care planning conversations with their doctor. The committee also calls for medical schools, professional societies, and accrediting organizations to increase all clinicians' knowledge of palliative care, for increased caregiver support, and for payment overhaul that promotes greater care coordination with medical and social services.

"The IOM's report is a clarion call to raise expectations at the end of life," says Nancy Zionts. "Through our *Closure* initiative, the Foundation has been facilitating meaningful conversations since 2007 — at a community and an



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individual level — about what matters most at the end of life. The IOM's recommendations further *Closure's* goals of normalizing these conversations and giving patients and families the power to decide what's best for them."

WHAT IS CLOSURE?

Closure is an education, planning, and outreach effort launched by JHF focused on improving end-of-life care. The program has two key components: Closure community conversations, which are designed to engage groups in discussions about end of life issues, and Closure 101, a curriculum of lessons developed to educate consumers and healthcare professionals about end-of-life issues and options.

For more information, visit www.closure.org.



Karen Feinstein to Speak at Global Health Symposium in South Africa

On October 1, Karen Feinstein will talk about the "Role of Information Symmetry in Promoting Patient-Centered Care" at the Third Global Symposium on Health Systems Research, which will be held in Cape Town, South Africa. Dr. Feinstein will participate on the panel, "Comparing Quality of Care in South Africa and the U.S."



The panel will be moderated by the Director General of Health of South Africa, Malebona Precious Matsoso.

Joining Dr. Feinstein on the panel will be Lisa Simpson, MB, BCh, MPH, FAAP, president and CEO AcademyHealth, and Georges Benjamin, MD, president of the American Public Health Association. Simpson will speak on how evidence is used to support quality policy, and Dr. Benjamin will discuss achieving high quality community-based services.

Bruce Block to Highlight PRHI's Practice Transformation Approach at ONC-HIT Meeting

PRHI is providing training and education to 80-plus regional practices working toward patient-centered medical home (PCMH) status, a primary care delivery model that enhances patients' care access and ability to manage their conditions, tracks and coordinates care, and strengthens links to community resources. On October 28, PRHI Chief Learning and Medical Informatics Officer Bruce Block, MD, will showcase PRHI's approach to practice transformation during an Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT (ONC-HIT) meeting in Washington, DC.



PRHI was selected four years ago as a regional contractor for ONC-HIT to help practices implement and meaningfully use electronic health records. Since then, PRHI's Regional Extension and Assistance Center for Health Information Technology (REACH) team has assisted 840 providers, with 100 percent now using EHRs and 91 percent reaching

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meaningful use standards. PRHI has since expanded its work to support practices in achieving medical home certification from the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) through PCMH training modules, workflow assessment and redesign, policy review, and application support.

“Through our PCMH work, we have discovered that practice transformation requires several key elements,” Block says. “You need engaged leadership, team-based care, strong data tracking and reporting, and a recognition that health happens between medical visits.”

JHF in the Community



JHF was well represented at Sue's Run 4 Kids, a 5K run, walk, and one mile family walk at Riverside Park that took place on September 14. From L-R: Shawn Hartle; Accounting Manager Lindsey Kirstatter Hartle, MBA, with children Lincoln and Walker; Karen Feinstein; and Abigail Condel, with mother Jen, SCT(ASCP)MT, a senior quality improvement specialist.



JHF Controller Michael Sundo was cheered on during Sue's Run 4 Kids by his wife, Jaime, as well as children Luca and Madison.



JHF staff competed in a Build-A-Bike competition at Heinz Field on September 18. Low-income youth received new bikes as part of the event hosted by the United Way of Allegheny County.



JHF Program Manager Robert Ferguson and Michael Sundo at the Coca-Cola Great Hall inside Heinz Field.



JHF made an appearance on Heinz Field's Jumbotron!

JHF, PRHI Welcome New Staff

We are pleased to announce that three new staff members have recently joined JHF and PRHI:

Glenn L. Thomas, RN, MHA, CCHP, joins PRHI as lead quality improvement specialist for the Primary Care Resource Centers at Butler Health System, Wheeling Hospital, and Conemaugh Memorial. Glenn has extensive experience in clinical nursing and nursing administration, including leadership positions in both inpatient and

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outpatient settings during his 19 years in the UPMC Health System. He also served as chief operating officer/chief nursing officer at Kindred Hospital at Heritage Valley, and most recently as director of operations at Wexford Health Sources. He brings a wealth of clinical experience and organizational knowledge to the PCRC project. Glenn is a registered nurse, holds a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from York College, and earned his Master's in Health Administration from the University of St. Francis.

Brandi Kelly, LSW, comes to JHF as a program associate. Brandi is currently finishing her law degree at Duquesne University (as an evening student), and she holds a Master of Social Work from the University of Pittsburgh. Her initial assignments at JHF include working on the HPV Vaccination Initiative and responding to sexual violence on college campuses. Brandi will also join the Center for Consumer Health Information Activation (CHIA) team, building on her past experiences in behavioral health. Brandi was a participant in this summer's Patient Safety Fellowship, and the Foundation will engage her in planning for next year's fellowship as well.

Anneliese Perry, MS, joins JHF/PRHI as a quality improvement specialist. Anneliese comes to the Foundation from Asbury Heights, where she has been on staff for the past five years. Many on our staff have worked with her through our Perfecting Patient CareSM, Long-Term Care Champions, *Closure*, and REACH work within Asbury. Anneliese will bring her experience in quality improvement training and coaching to the RAVEN and Quality Innovation Network teams, and to our Learning Solutions Group. She holds a Master of Science in Professional Leadership from Carlow College and a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Westminster College.