



National Health Foundation e-News

Bridging Gaps in Healthcare

July/August 2011

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Greetings!

Welcome to the July/August 2011 edition of the National Health Foundation's (NHF) Newsletter! NHF's e-News & Information is a bi-monthly e-publication designed to keep interested parties up-to-date on current projects, special events, and activities taking place at NHF.

Patient Safety First...a California Partnership for Health Reports Year One Outcomes

In its first year, *Patient Safety First...a California Partnership for Health*, reports that it has helped save over 700 lives by working to prevent sepsis-related deaths. Launched in 2010, *Patient Safety First* is a groundbreaking three-year, \$6-million collaboration between the National Health Foundation, California's Regional Hospital Associations, and Anthem Blue Cross to improve the consistency and quality of health care for Californians. With more than 160 hospitals participating from across the state, Patient Safety First is the largest collaborative focused on patient safety in the nation. "Patient Safety First is one of the most challenging and potentially rewarding endeavors ever undertaken in the health care system. It strives to engage California hospitals in learning collaborations with the specific goal of

improving patient safety and cost savings for those needing hospitalization," said Eugene Grigsby, president and CEO of the National Health Foundation.

In addition to making great strides in sepsis, at the end of the first year of implementation, data from participating hospitals demonstrated a 41 percent reduction in ventilator acquired pneumonia (VAP); a 25 percent reduction in central line blood stream infections (CLBSI); a 24 percent reduction in catheter acquired urinary tract infections (CAUTI). Partners continue to work toward the goal of reaching a rate of zero for hospital acquired infections and have begun focusing on perinatal initiatives which include reducing birth trauma and gestational age deliveries under 39 weeks gestational age. Year one results for Patient Safety First are encouraging and National Health Foundation along with its Patient Safety First partners look forward to seeing and reporting even greater improvements after the end of the next year of implementation.

For more information on Patient Safety First, contact Mia Arias at Marrias@nhfca.org

NHF Receives Funding To Develop Pregnancy Prevention Program for Boys

For the past four years, NHF has successfully implemented Harold Cares About Your Future: Pregnant Teen and Parenting Support Program in six LAUSD high schools. Last year, NHF launched a pilot program, Go Harold's Way: Be a STAR (Successful Teen Acting Responsibly), targeting female students most at risk for becoming pregnant. Through the generous support of the Harold Edelstein Foundation, these two programs have reached hundreds of teen boys and girls.

Recently, NHF received funding to develop and pilot a similar prevention program for high school boys. Recognizing that adolescent boys face unique challenges, this new program will draw on effective strategies of existing pregnancy prevention programs and build on the success of NHF's current school-based programs for teens. The pilot program is planned for Spring 2012.

For more information, please contact Brooke Fox, Program Director, at bfox@nhfca.org.

NHF Welcomes Recuperative Care Coordinator Jeannine Pugliese

Jeannine Pugliese joined the National Health Foundation's Recuperative Care team in June 2011.

The Recuperative Care Program addresses the gap in recuperative care needs for homeless patients discharged from hospitals. As a Coordinator, she works closely with social workers and discharge planners on the program utilization, maintains regular updates to hospitals, and schedules in-services as needed.

Prior to joining NHF, Jeannine held positions in the field of health care, senior services, and mental health. She has several years of experience in advocating and empowering those in need; joining NHF was a natural transition for her to continue to provide services to the underserved.

Jeannine has a Bachelor's degree in Social Work from California State University, Los Angeles. She is currently working on a Masters degree in Social Work, with a future goal of becoming an LCSW.

The National Health Foundation's mission is to improve the health of the underserved by creating systemic solutions to gaps in healthcare access and delivery systems. To do this, NHF strives to address those issues that are most important in our community, such as: chronic disease prevention and management, uninsured families, and gaps in the healthcare delivery system.

In addressing barriers to healthcare access, the National Health Foundation provides services such as research, evaluation, facilitation, collaboration, training and education, and web-based technology support to hospitals, health plans, government agencies, nonprofits, community business organizations childcare providers, and other community service organizations.

Sincerely,

Carlyne C. Ervin

National Health Foundation

Email: cervin@nhfca.org

Web: <http://www.nhfca.org>