



NRHI Leads Project to Reduce Health Care Spending

Project Instrumental in Lowering Health Care Costs in Communities

PORTLAND, Maine. – November 20, 2013 – The Network for Regional Healthcare Improvement (NRHI), a leader in transforming U.S. health care, announced today that it received funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) to identify the drivers of regional health care costs and develop strategies to reduce spending at the community level. NRHI will lead this work that will be conducted by five Regional Health Improvement Collaboratives (RHICs) throughout the country. RHICs are uniquely positioned to work with local physicians, patients and other stakeholders to use this data to improve care. The results of this work have the potential to inform future efforts in regional and national cost reduction.

“We know that health care costs and quality vary across the U.S. This is an exciting opportunity to understand and analyze the drivers of health care costs in this country. The results of our work will provide guidance to communities who are interested in obtaining and using data on regional costs to help make health care better and more affordable,” says Elizabeth Mitchell, President and CEO of NRHI.

This seminal project will be conducted over an 18-month period and will explore a common measurement standard of cost and resource use across the participating regions. The partnering RHICs will create a benchmark to reliably compare regional costs and resource use, and engage in multi-stakeholder dialogue to further understand the results and come up with ways of using this information to reduce costs. Focused efforts with physician partners will create a curriculum for teaching physicians how to turn the reporting into strategies for reducing costs. The project will culminate in a national summit that will review the results of this research and its implications nationally.

Contact Information:

To contact the Network for Regional Healthcare Improvement (NRHI):
www.nrhi.org

About NRHI: The Network for Regional Healthcare Improvement is a national organization representing regional multi-stakeholder groups working towards achieving the Triple Aim of better health, better care, and reduced costs through continuous improvement. NRHI and all of its members are non-profit organizations, separate from state government, working directly with physicians, hospitals, health plans, and patients using data to improve health care. For more information, visit us on the web at www.nrhi.org.

About Robert Wood Johnson Foundation: The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation focuses on the pressing health and health care issues facing our country. As the nation’s largest philanthropy devoted exclusively to health and health care, the Foundation works with a diverse group of organizations and individuals to identify solutions

and achieve comprehensive, measurable, and timely change. For more than 40 years the Foundation has brought experience, commitment, and a rigorous, balanced approach to the problems that affect the health and health care of those it serves. When it comes to helping Americans lead healthier lives and get the care they need, the Foundation expects to make a difference in your lifetime. For more information, visit www.rwjf.org. Follow the Foundation on Twitter at www.rwjf.org/twitter or on Facebook at www.rwjf.org/facebook.

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