

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

December 14, 2011

**Media Contacts:**

Larry Tobias, Sunflower Foundation  
[ltobias@sunflowerfoundation.org](mailto:ltobias@sunflowerfoundation.org) / 785-232-3000

In Kansas City Metro Area:  
Pattie Mansur, REACH Healthcare Foundation  
[pattie@reachhealth.org](mailto:pattie@reachhealth.org) / 913-432-4196

**KANSAS FOUNDATIONS ANNOUNCE GRANTS TO NINE ORGANIZATIONS TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF FEDERAL HEALTH LAW**

TOPEKA, KANSAS – Five health philanthropies that established a fund to help Kansas organizations prepare for health reform announced grants to nine nonprofit organizations totaling \$244,800. The grants were awarded through the Affordable Care Act Opportunity Fund, a \$450,000 grant pool created by the Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City, the Kansas Health Foundation, the REACH Healthcare Foundation, the Sunflower Foundation and the United Methodist Health Ministry Fund. The fund, set up at the Topeka Community Foundation, will continue to accept grant proposals through 2012.

“The fund is designed to help Kansas nonprofit organizations take advantage of federal programs and innovation grants that are being offered as part of implementation of the health reform law,” said Billie Hall, President and CEO of the Sunflower Foundation. “These grants will enable organizations to pursue expansion and innovation grants and funding for collaborative efforts.”

The following organizations received ACA Opportunity Fund grants:

Organization	Amount	Project
Health Innovations Network of Kansas	\$30,000	Technical assistance for consortium of 19 northeast Kansas hospitals to examine alternative organizational models to enhance health, health care and cost effectiveness.
Kansas Health Institute, Topeka	\$30,000	Collaboration with Kansas Insurance Department to assess public knowledge about the health law and develop methods for communicating about changes related to the law.
Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas, Pittsburg	\$29,500	Architectural design and site planning to support federal application for capital development and expansion.
PrairieStar Health Center, Hutchinson	\$30,000	Architectural design and grant writing assistance to support federal application for capital development and expansion.
GraceMed Health Clinic, Wichita	\$30,000	Grant writing, budgeting assistance and financial analysis to support federal application for capital development and expansion.
First Care Clinic, Hays	\$21,800	Architectural design and grant writing assistance to support federal application for capital development and expansion.
Flint Hills Community Health Center, Emporia	\$28,500	Architectural design and grant writing assistance to support federal application for capital development and expansion.

## Health Foundations Announce ACA Opportunity Fund Grants

Konza Prairie Community Health Center, Junction City	\$30,000	Grant writing, financial analysis and architectural design to support federal application for capital development and expansion.
Salina Family Healthcare Center, Salina	\$15,000	Architectural design, budgeting and grant writing assistance to support federal application for capital development and expansion.
<b>TOTAL GRANTS</b>	<b>\$244,800</b>	

The five health philanthropies modeled the ACA Opportunity Fund on funding pools established in other states to help nonprofit and governmental entities take advantage of the more than \$20 billion in federal funds expected to be released over several years to support health care improvements.

Activities that can be funded include legal, actuarial and policy research and activities; technical assistance with federal grant applications; required matching funds for grants; and efforts that engage consumers and other stakeholders in health reform implementation. Grants cannot be used to support indirect expenses of state agencies, nonprofit organizations or collaborative efforts.

The online application, eligibility criteria and other information are available at the Topeka Community Foundation, [www.topekacommunityfoundation.org](http://www.topekacommunityfoundation.org). Questions regarding the application process can be directed to Sheldon Weisgrau, Director, Health Reform Resource Project, 785-408-8008, [healthreformresource@gmail.com](mailto:healthreformresource@gmail.com).

###