



The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, Inc.

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14 NONPROFITS RECEIVE A TOTAL OF \$8.1 MILLION IN GRANTS FROM THE HARRY AND JEANETTE WEINBERG FOUNDATION

Innovative Projects in Nine States Receive Funding Through the Family and Informal Caregiver Support Program

BALTIMORE (April 14, 2009) - The Harry and Jeannette Weinberg Foundation, one of the largest private foundations in the United States, announced the results of its Family and Informal Caregiver Support Program Request for Proposals. 14 different projects will receive a total of \$8,184,145 over the next three years. The Family and Informal Caregiver Support Program was developed by the Weinberg Foundation to increase support for projects that support family and friends delivering care to chronically ill and disabled older adults.. The grants were made to nonprofits in the states of California, New York, Florida, Texas, Maine, New Hampshire, Indiana, Pennsylvania, and Illinois. The grants will provide funds to support innovative and evidence-based community projects that help family and friends care for low- and moderate-income older adults.

According to the 2003 National Alliance for Caregiving/AARP National Caregiver Survey, an estimated 30 million adults provide ongoing care for family and friends, with 75 percent of the care provided by family members and other informal caregivers. The number of older adults who need assistance from formal and informal caregivers continues to increase due in large part to longer life expectancies and greatly improved health care technologies.

"For many older adults living with debilitating illness and disabilities, the need for support stems from several factors, including greater financial need, lack of access to health care, unexpected health costs, and isolation from family members," said Shale D. Stiller, president of the Weinberg Foundation. "Our goal is to provide support for the programs that will work directly to support and develop networks of family and informal caregivers."

Using a national Request for Proposals (RFP), the Weinberg Foundation identified 14 programs in nine states that meet the needs of informal and family caregivers in a variety of innovative ways. The funded projects include assessment of family caregiving needs, support of respite services, legal and financial consultation, home care services, home modification, and individual and family counseling. The programs provide training for family and informal caregivers on a wide range of topics from communicating with doctors and pharmacists to proper lifting and transfer techniques for injury prevention. Projects selected for grants also aim to increase access to information for older adults including mobility and transportation options and eligibility for public benefits. Finally, programs that

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increase the availability of training and specialized services for caregivers of older adults with Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia was a priority for funding through the RFP.

"The impact of caregiving for an older family member or friend may lead to increased financial, physical, and emotional strain for the caregivers," said Barry Schloss, Vice President and Trustee of the Weinberg Foundation. "The Family and Informal Caregiver Support Program focuses on programs that are sustainable, affordable, and replicable. The program provides support to innovative and proven community initiatives. We are funding programs that demonstrate new or expanded approaches to supporting family and informal caregivers."

Projects funded by the Weinberg Foundation's Family and Informal Caregiver Support Program include:

1. **AgeOptions (Oak Park, IL)** will receive a grant totaling \$515,357 for Caring Together, Living Better. The program will work directly with churches and other grassroots organizations that serve poor older adults living in Chicago's South Suburbs. Caregivers will receive help with respite care, transportation, and access to benefits such as Food Stamps.
2. **The Asian Community Center (Sacramento Valley, California)** will receive a grant totaling \$706,659 for the Sacramento Asian Pacific Islander Dementia Care Network. The project will provide direct assistance to caregivers from Sacramento's very diverse Asian communities including Thai, Filipino, Hmong, Korean, Samoan, Tongan, and Native Hawaiian with services such as caregiver education, drop-in respite care, and in-home nursing services. The project will also educate mainstream service providers on how to work with a linguistically and culturally diverse population.
3. **Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Association of Southern California (Los Angeles, CA)** will receive a grant of \$750,000 for the Asian and Pacific Islander Dementia Care Network. The program will provide services for caregivers directly through four Asian cultural and linguistic organizations to provide respite care and legal and financial counseling related to caregiving.
4. **Eastern Area Agency on Aging (Bangor, ME)** will receive a grant of \$650,000 to support the Rural Community Based Caregiver Network and Support System. The program will offer in-home assessment and volunteer support services, caregiver counseling at the point of hospital discharge, and training for caregivers living in this very rural area of Northern New England.
5. **Isabella Geriatric Center, Upper Manhattan (New York City, NY)** will receive a grant of \$714,900 to support the Caregiver Ombudsman Outreach Project. The project will permit specialists to work with family and informal caregivers by offering respite care, caregiver retreats, and training sessions.

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6. **Jewish Family and Children's Service of Sarasota-Manatee (Sarasota, FL)** will receive a grant of \$708,229 for its Caregivers Accessing Resources and Essential Services (CARES) project. CARES introduces a widely used approach to planning and delivering services to children, known as Wraparound Services, to older adult caregivers. Through this project, caregivers will receive respite care and homemaker services from local volunteers.
7. **Jewish Healthcare Foundation (Pittsburgh, PA)** will receive a grant of \$300,000 for its Caregiver Champions program. Caregiver Champions are older adults with caregiving experience providing peer support and counseling along with assistance in gaining access to services through monthly gatherings in their homes. Through this project caregivers will have direct contact with major service providers and will receive homecare, respite care, nutrition services, and personal lifestyle programs.
8. **Monadnock Collaborative (Keene, NH)** will receive a grant of \$650,000 for its Transitions in Caring initiative. This program links caregiver support programs in four rural counties of Western New Hampshire and features intensive caregiver training and respite care for the caregiver and care recipient. The program will also provide in-home volunteers to help with homemaking and chore services.
9. **Parker Jewish Institute for Health Care and Rehabilitation (New Hyde Park, NY)** will receive a grant of \$300,000 to support Willing Hearts, Helpful Hands. The project will recruit, train, and deploy volunteer respite care workers in Eastern Queens (Hyde Park) and Western Long Island. The project will deploy trained volunteers to step in for family and informal caregivers in an emergency or recurring basis.
10. **REAL Services (South Bend IN)** will receive a grant of \$780,000 for the Caregiver Connection project, a community-based program with caregiver training, case management, and home modification. The project will serve a community of older adults living in sub-standard housing.
11. **Senior Action in a Gay Environment (New York City, NY)** will receive a grant of \$660,000 for the Life Choices I Care/My Care program which recognizes that caregivers and care recipients in this community may rely solely on non-family acquaintances or friends to provide their care. The project will offer caregiver training supplemented by legal, financial, and personal care planning assistance for both the caregiver and care receiver.
12. **Share the Care (Orlando, FL)** will receive a grant of \$309,000 for Caregiver Central, a project designed around telephone access to services and a "Caregiver College" serving as a Hub for services and training in older, poor African American and Latino communities in Metropolitan Orlando. At the Hub, or any of the three planned satellites, a caregiver can find a care manager who will provide advice, a link to services, and hands-on training. Any of these services can also be accessed over the telephone.

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13. **Southern Caregiver Resource Center (San Diego, CA)** will receive a grant of \$540,000 for the Partners In Caring Collaboration. The program will provide services for caregivers in the South Bay area, the ethnically diverse communities south of San Diego along the Mexican border. Services provided include respite care, training, with links to Meals on Wheels, as well as homemaker and chore services for older, often mono-lingual, caregivers who have no current access to services. Each community in the area will have its own care manager located in the community to coordinate these services and training opportunities.

14. **Wellmed Charitable Foundation (San Antonio, TX)** will receive a grant of \$600,000 for the Alamo Caregiver Tele-Connection Collaboration, a mix of services and supports available by telephone, on the web, or in person for low-income older adults in the San Antonio area. Caregivers will receive bi-lingual and bi-cultural training in respite care, in-home assessment, and benefits screening for the care receiver and the care recipient.

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The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation annually distributes approximately \$100 million to a wide range of charitable organizations. The Foundation is dedicated to assisting the poor through operating and capital grants to direct service organizations primarily located in Maryland, Hawaii, Northeastern Pennsylvania, New York, Israel, and the Former Soviet Union. Grants are focused on meeting basic needs such as shelter, health and socialization, nutrition, and on enhancing an individual's ability to meet those needs. Within that focus, emphasis is placed on older adults and on the Jewish community. The trustees, some of whom also serve as executive officers of the Foundation, are Alvin Awaya, Robert T. Kelly, Jr., Barry Schloss, Donn Weinberg, and President Shale D. Stiller. For more information go to www.hjweinbergfoundation.org.