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TPC Releases Powerful Figures On Health Grantmaking

Study Shows Underserved Communities Receiving Lion's Share of Health Grants

(Washington, DC – June 15, 2009) In the midst of one of the biggest debates on health care reform in decades, The Philanthropic Collaborative (TPC) has released a study quantifying the important contributions made by foundations to the field of health.

The health sector is the greatest recipient of foundation monies, receiving roughly 18 percent of total grants. Last December, a TPC study found that for every dollar a foundation gives to health and wellness programs, more than seven dollars of economic benefits and savings goes back into the community. Building on this finding, TPC's newest study answers the question, "which populations benefit from this grantmaking?" Together, these studies provide a comprehensive picture of how foundation grants flow through our economy.

Prepared by economist Dr. Phillip Swagel, "Broad Benefits: Health-Related Giving by Private and Community Foundations" finds more than two out of every three dollars of all health grants made by foundations benefit low-income and minority communities.

- Social return on foundation grants to health and medical care averages 7.6 to 1
- Sixty-eight percent of health related grant dollars benefit underserved groups
- From '05 to '07, \$5.5 billion in health grants went to underserved communities

"I am gratified our assumptions about the commitment of health foundations to improving conditions for underserved and minority populations stand up to the scrutiny of empirical research," said **Lauren LeRoy of Grantmakers In Health**. "With growing foundation efforts to address the root causes of poor health as well as access to care, the proportion of grant dollars focused on these groups is likely to rise."

"These are hard times for our country, and this downturn is being felt most sharply by those living at the margins of society," said **Providence Mayor David Cicilline**, President of the National Conference of Democratic Mayors and founding member of TPC. "Where government is cutting back, foundations are stepping up to help catch those falling through the cracks. This study validates their efforts toward helping those most in need."

"The National Council of La Raza's Institute for Hispanic Health wouldn't exist today to benefit disadvantaged Latino communities without the support of private philanthropy," said **Dr. Maria Rosa, Vice President of La Raza's Institute for Hispanic Health**.

To learn more about The Philanthropic Collaborative and to read the full text of Dr. Swagel's study, please visit www.philanthropycollaborative.org. TPC is a non-partisan coalition of elected officials, foundations and charities formed to advance the important role of community and private foundations across America.

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