

# NORTHWEST HEALTH FOUNDATION

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*The Community's Partner for Better Health*

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Contact: Chris Palmedo, Northwest Health Foundation

503-505-5699

[cpalmedo@nwhf.org](mailto:cpalmedo@nwhf.org)

## **Partners Investing in Nursing's Future Makes \$28 Million Investment**

*Northwest Health Foundation and Robert Wood Johnson  
Program Announces 11 New Grants across 12 States*

PORTLAND, OR – The Northwest Health Foundation (NWHF) and The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) announced 11 new grants as part of the *Partners Investing in Nursing's Future (PIN)*, a multi-year, multi-million dollar national investment in America's nursing workforce. The program, in its sixth year of funding, helps prepare future nurses with the skills needed to serve an older and more diverse population.

"All health care is local, and nurses are the cornerstone of our health care system. We need community solutions that address the challenges facing a changing health care system and that utilize local and regional experience," said Judith Woodruff, J.D., director of workforce development at the Northwest Health Foundation and program director for *Partners Investing in Nursing's Future*. "Through PIN, local philanthropic foundations act as catalysts to develop and execute strategies needed to build a highly skilled nursing workforce – enabling us to test innovative ideas locally and share them nationally."

PIN supports the capacity, involvement and leadership of local foundations to advance the nursing profession in their own communities by leveraging the \$14 million in grants by RWJF and more than \$14 million in matching funds. There are over 220 funding partners including private foundations, hospitals and health systems, workforce investment agencies, economic development programs, banks, private industry and individuals. The new funding creates a total of 61 PIN projects in more than 37 states with more than 500 partners.

The goals of the 2011 partner projects are closely aligned with the recommendations of the recent Institute of Medicine report, *The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health*.

The projects include efforts to transform nursing education, encourage workforce racial, ethnic and gender diversity, and to develop nurses as leaders in health reform.

“The health care system continues to go through dramatic change and diversification. It demands strong partnerships to address the needs of our health care professionals and through our partnership with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, we are providing a valuable resource for and investment in the future of our nursing community.” Said Thomas Aschenbrener, president and founder of Northwest Health Foundation. “We believe that all people should have access to high quality health care where nurses contribute as essential partners in achieving good health.”

The local partnerships that are part of *Partners Investing in Nursing’s Future* are a diverse group with a wide range of program initiatives, but with a shared understanding of the importance of nursing to their communities. Partners funded in the latest round in 2011 are:

- 1. Arkansas Community Foundation (Arkansas)**  
*Planning for Workforce Development in Geriatric and Long-Term Care in Arkansas*
- 2. Community Foundation for the Land of Lincoln (Illinois/Iowa)**  
*Academic Pathways and Leadership in Nursing*
- 3. Con Alma Health Foundation (New Mexico)**  
*New Mexico Nursing Diversity Partnership*
- 4. Daisy Marquis Jones Foundation (New York)**  
*Long Term Care Leadership Academy*
- 5. Jonas Center for Nursing Excellence at the Jewish Communal Fund (New York and North Carolina)**  
*RIBN Expansion in New York City and North Carolina*
- 6. Massachusetts Senior Care Foundation (Massachusetts)**  
*Care Transitions Education Project (CTEP)*
- 7. Richmond Memorial Health Foundation (Virginia)**  
*Partnership for Progression: Inspiration for Aspirations*
- 8. The Rogosin Institute / Dreyfus Health Foundation (New York with U.S. Pacific Islands)**  
*Expanding PIN Synergy in the Pacific*
- 9. The Faye McBeath Foundation (Wisconsin)**  
*Workforce Data and Mental Health Redesign: Nursing’s Voice*
- 10. Tufts Health Plan Foundation (Massachusetts/Rhode Island/New Hampshire)**  
*Building a Regional Institute for Inter-Professional Education*
- 11. Wyoming Community Foundation (Wyoming)**  
*Nursing Education and Leadership in Wyoming*

More information about *Partners Investing in Nursing’s Future*: [www.partnersinnursing.org](http://www.partnersinnursing.org).

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**About Northwest Health Foundation:**

*The mission of the Northwest Health Foundation is to advance, support, and promote the health of the people in Oregon and Southwest Washington. The Foundation invests in efforts that address the root causes of health through community-driven solutions and seeks to ensure that the voices of all people are represented in health policy discussions. More information can be found at [www.nwhf.org](http://www.nwhf.org).*

*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 improving the health and health care of all Americans, the Foundation works with a diverse group of organizations and individuals to identify solutions and achieve comprehensive, meaningful and timely change. For more than 35 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. Helping Americans lead healthier lives and get the care they need, the Foundation expects to make a difference in our lifetime. [www.rwjf.org](http://www.rwjf.org).*

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