



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation selects class for 2010-2011 Massachusetts Institute for Community Health Leadership

News Release

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BOSTON – Sixteen emerging leaders in health care access have been named to the sixth class of the Massachusetts Institute for Community Health Leadership (MICHL). MICHL is designed to help those with leadership potential increase their personal impact and enhance their health organization's influence in the health care system. The 18-day educational program takes place over the course of nine months, offering a highly experiential curriculum, with classroom work, peer-to-peer exchanges and collaborative learning. During the program, students develop and implement a project that addresses a health care issue impacting the uninsured and low-income people in Massachusetts.

MICHL engages participants in:

- Exploring the leadership challenges facing health care agencies in Massachusetts;
- Identifying and building the capacities and skills leaders will need to meet the challenges; and
- Fostering collaboration among nonprofits and public agencies.

Past graduates include Valerie Bassett, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Public Health Association; Lynn Bethel, Director, Office of Oral Health, Massachusetts Department of Public Health; Derek S. Brindisi, Director of Public Health for the City of Worcester Department of Health and Human Services; and Dr. Gary Chu, VP of Community Collaboration at New England Eye.

The 2010-2011 class includes:

- Jaime Corliss, Director, Shape Up Somerville
- Barbara Couzens, Director of Community Relations and Patient Advocacy, The Dimock Center
- Suzanne Curry, Health Reform Policy Coordinator, Health Care For All
- Amy DeLong, Manager, Federal Government Relations, Children's Hospital Boston
- Stephanie Hirst, VP for Public Policy and Research, Association for Behavioral Healthcare
- Lorenza Holt, Executive Director, Boston Association for Childbirth Education
- David Jordan, Project Director, Community Catalyst
- Geraldine Kennedy, Nurse Practitioner, Mercy Medical Center
- Mursal Khaliif, Sr. Director, Multi Lingual Services, Cambridge Health Alliance
- Rosette Martinez, Community Relations/Marketing Director, South End Community Health Center
- Caroline Minkin, Director of Health Safety Net, Division of Health Care Finance & Policy
- Liz Olivera-Mustard, Quality Improvement Manager, Great Brook Valley Health Center
- Candace Reddy, Asst. Budget Director/Sr. Advisor for Health Care Finance & Policy, Executive Office for Administration and Finance
- Laura Sullivan, MD, Medical Director, Cambridge Health Alliance
- Nicole Tambouret, State Policy Director, Massachusetts Immigrant Refugee Advocacy Coalition
- Carmen Torres, Billing Supervisor, Dorchester House Multi-Service Center
- Jean Wiecha, Director and Associate Professor, GoKids, UMass-Boston

The Blue Cross Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation

The mission of the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation is to expand access to health care. It focuses on collaborating with public and private stakeholders to develop measurable and sustainable solutions that benefit uninsured, vulnerable, and low-income individuals and families in the Commonwealth. The Foundation was formed in 2001 with an endowment from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts. It operates separately from the company and is governed by its own Board of Directors.

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