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New Massachusetts Health Reform Resource

BOSTON — November 22, 2010 — The <u>Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation</u> has launched an online resource dedicated entirely to Massachusetts health reform. The new website offers the most thorough and accurate picture to-date of what the state's groundbreaking health reform law does, how it is working, and what still remains to be done. In its fifth year of implementation, Massachusetts health reform remains a resounding success, resulting in the coverage of nearly 400,000 newly insured Commonwealth residents and serving as a model for national health reform. The new site is the first comprehensive clearinghouse of resources on Massachusetts health reform. It captures the unique accomplishments of the law, the work of stakeholders across the state to realize and sustain reform, and the implications of the Massachusetts experience for national health reform.

The <u>website</u> includes links to scores of documents, reports, data sources and analyses. Users can navigate through sections devoted to the following topics:

- The Massachusetts Law and its History
- Health Reform Implementation
- Health Reform Results
- Financing Massachusetts Reform
- Health Reform 2.0: Cost and Quality
- Lessons from the Massachusetts Experience
- How National Reform Affects Massachusetts
- Other Resources

The site also offers new tools for understanding the Massachusetts law and its impact, such as an interactive guide to the most up-to-date version of Chapter 58, with links to regulations, reports, commissions and other results of the law's provisions, and video clips from the Foundation's June 2010 national health reform event, including a tribute to Senator Kennedy. The website will be updated frequently to reflect new research, progress in reaching the goals of access, affordability and effectiveness, and changes in laws or regulations.

"We are pleased to release this exceptional resource to the health reform community," said Sarah Iselin, president of the Foundation. "We believe that this clearinghouse on the lessons of Massachusetts reform will be highly valuable to stakeholders in the Commonwealth as well as health reform leaders in other states, now making crucial decisions on health reform in their communities."

Click here to visit the new site: http://bluecrossfoundation.org/Health-Reform.aspx.

About the 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.