



The Greater Detroit Area Health Council Selected for National Project to Measure and Compare Healthcare Costs Across U.S. Regions

Bingham Farms, November 30, 2017 — The Greater Detroit Area Health Council (GDAHC) and four other organizations have been selected by the Network for Regional Healthcare Improvement (NRHI) to join its groundbreaking project measuring and reporting on the total cost of healthcare (Total Cost of Care or TCoC) in regions across the U.S.

NRHI is a national organization of regional health improvement collaboratives working to transform the U.S. healthcare system. The project is part of NRHI's *Getting to Affordability* initiative, funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and seeks to answer such critical questions as: *What does healthcare cost in my community? Why does healthcare cost more in some places than others?* and *What's driving the differences in costs for the same services or procedures?*

GDAHC and HealthInsight New Mexico, HealthInsight Nevada, Integrated Healthcare Association, and California Healthcare Performance Information System will join nine other organizations that have previously received funding to address regional barriers to measuring and reporting Total Cost of Care.

"Healthcare costs around the country vary tremendously and the Total Cost of Care project provides an opportunity to understand the differences as we work to achieve more affordable healthcare," states Kate Kohn-Parrott, President and CEO of GDAHC. "We look forward to contributing through collaborative reporting on Southeast Michigan's healthcare costs."

Some of the project's current grantees, Washington Health Alliance, HealthInsight Oregon, HealthInsight Utah, Massachusetts Health Quality Partners, and Virginia Health Information, will receive additional funding to continue their work, and will share their strategies and lessons learned to inform and accelerate the work of other regions.

For more information about the project, see its January 2017 report "[From Claims to Clarity: Deriving Actionable Healthcare Cost Benchmarks from Aggregated Commercial Claims Data](#)," which provided the first-ever comparison of what commercial insurers are paying for healthcare in different regions of the country.

About The Greater Detroit Area Health Council (GDAHC)

GDAHC is southeast Michigan's premier health care coalition. It leverages multi-sector and multi-stakeholder collaboration to develop and evaluate innovative ways to improve the health and wellbeing of the people living and working in southeast Michigan. As a health care leader for more than 73 years – recognized nationally and regionally – GDAHC represents everyone who gets care, gives care and pays for care. Dedicated to the cost-effective allocation, management and use of health care resources, the non-profit collaborative seeks to develop strong, strategic partnerships that increase access to care, improve the value, and manage the cost of health. For more information visit www.gdahc.org. Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GDAHC/ or Twitter at @GDAHC.

About NRHI

NRHI represents more than 30 regional health improvement collaboratives (RHICs) and state-affiliated partners, all working toward the goals of better health, better care, and lower costs. RHICs provide a neutral, trusted mechanism through which communities can plan, facilitate, and coordinate the activities required for successful transformation of their healthcare systems. RHICs' deep local and regional knowledge makes them uniquely qualified to help develop innovative solutions to their communities' particular needs. Follow us on Twitter at @RegHealthImp.

About RWJF

For more than 40 years the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation has worked to improve health and health care. We are working with others to build a national Culture of Health enabling everyone in America to live longer, healthier lives. For more information, visit www.rwjf.org. Follow the Foundation on Twitter at www.rwjf.org/twitter or on Facebook at www.rwjf.org/facebook.

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