

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PCCI AWARDED ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION GRANT TO IMPROVE COMMUNITY HEALTH THROUGH MULTI-SECTOR COLLABORATION

'Data Across Sectors for Health' Selects PCCI to Increase Community Capacity to Improve Health Through Data Sharing

DALLAS - PCCI has been selected by DASH -- Data Across Sectors for Health -- as one of ten grantees to implement projects that improve health through multi-sector data sharing collaborations. DASH is a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the nation's largest philanthropy focused exclusively on health and health care.

Experts say that while most communities have some access to data from public health and health care systems, they lack important information on social determinants, such as transportation, housing, education and social services. These factors play a major role in contributing to individual and community health and wellbeing.

“Sharing data across sectors narrows knowledge gaps, increases collaboration, and ultimately improves community health, said Dr. Ruben Amarasingham, President and CEO of PCCI, “In order for our community to see better health outcomes, we need more comprehensive data – including data that sheds light on the social determinants beyond clinical health care that influence our health.”

The work of PCCI would not be possible without the joint efforts of the various sectors in our community. As part of this grant, we will be collaborating with Parkland Health & Hospital System and the North Texas Food Bank as we use PCCI's technology to enable bi-directional information exchange to provide personalized care for patients with diabetes, hypertension and food insecurity. We anticipate that this innovative project will improve access to nutritionally appropriate food, reduce avoidable emergency room visits and hospitalization, and enhance the general wellbeing of the patients we serve.

DASH grantees will identify and test innovative practices that foster collaboration, engage across sectors and build robust data and information systems to increase capacity of organizations to improve health in their communities. PCCI will build upon its previous work in the Dallas area to focus on coordinating care across sectors to improve health among vulnerable populations. Multi-year grants were awarded in January, 2016 and will run through July, 2017.

“Data sharing across sectors increases the capacity of collaborations to understand the health of their community. When communities incorporate social determinant, clinical and public health data, they have more detailed information to make better decisions about programs and policies that affect health outcomes,” said Peter Eckart of the Illinois Public Health Institute, which administers DASH.

“Without collaboration between government and private and public organizations—including organizations that aren't traditionally thought of in terms of health, we cannot have an accurate understanding of community health.”

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About the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

For more than 40 years the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation has worked to improve health and health care. We are striving to build a national Culture of Health that will enable all to live longer, healthier lives now and for generations to come. 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.

About Data Across Sectors for Health

As part of its multi-sector data and information system focus, RWJF launched DASH. DASH aims to identify barriers, opportunities, promising practices and indicators of progress for multi-sector collaborations to connect information systems and share data for community health improvement. The DASH National Program Office (NPO), led by the Illinois Public Health Institute (IPHI) in partnership with the Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI) and with support from the Foundation, is responsible for leading DASH. To learn more, visit www.DASHconnect.org or follow us at @DASH_connect.

About PCCI

PCCI is an elite research and development company and innovation think tank focused on healthcare. The Pieces™ software interprets EMR data in real-time, transforming them into useful intervention warning tools that assist physicians and hospitals on complex clinical decisions in every fields of medicine. Headquartered in Dallas, Texas, PCCI's vision is to deploy predictive and surveillance solutions around the world that make healthcare safer, simpler, and less stressful. For more information, visit www.pccipieces.org or follow us at @pccipieces.