



## **Impact of Health Reform on the HealthWell Foundation**

On March 21, 2010, the Patient Protection and Affordability Care Act was signed into law. We know many of our patients have questions concerning what this historic legislation means for the HealthWell Foundation. The short answer is that the HealthWell Foundation plans to be here for a long time, continuing our mission to reduce barriers to care for underinsured patients with chronic or life-threatening diseases.

Over the next decade, we anticipate the demand for copayment and premium assistance actually will rise, particularly as more of the uninsured get health insurance. Through the generosity of our donors, the HealthWell Foundation will continue to assist our patients with their prescription coinsurance, copayments, and deductibles, as well as healthcare premiums.

This year, the health care reform will begin to help Medicare Part D Patients who reach their coverage gap or “doughnut hole” by providing a \$250 rebate to help pay for their prescription drugs. The HealthWell Foundation realizes that patients have many health care expenses and that we are not able to offer assistance for many of these costs. Therefore, we are happy to know that some patients will receive this additional \$250 resource, and we will not ask any of our grant recipients to return this money to the Foundation.

We will continue to update our website as we learn more about health care reform. Also, we encourage our patients to learn as much as they can about this new legislation and how it will affect them. For more detailed information, please visit the following websites:

The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation - <http://healthreform.kff.org>

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services - <http://www.healthreform.gov>

The National Consumer Voice For Quality Long-Term Care - <http://www.nccnhr.org/advocate/health-care-reform>

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