

October 2009 Quarterly e-News

WHAT'S NEW?

HealthWell Foundation Welcomes Mary Sundeen as New Executive Director

HealthWell is pleased to announce the appointment of Mary P. Sundeen to the position of Executive Director. Mary has over 20 years experience in management, and public, media and investor relations within the healthcare and biopharmaceutical industries. Prior to joining the HealthWell Foundation she served as President and Chief Executive Officer of a Maryland-based hospice. Other positions include Vice President and Corporate Officer for GenVec, Inc. and Senior Director of Corporate Communications and Investor Relations for EntreMed, Inc. Mary has been active in the hospice and oncology arenas for the past 12 years and has served as spokesperson for several corporations sponsoring clinical trials of investigational cancer therapies including gene therapy, antiangiogenics, cancer vaccines, and monoclonal antibodies. [Read more...](#)

HealthWell Foundation Gathers Leading Health Care Stakeholders to Discuss Crisis of the Underinsured

On Tuesday, September 22, 2009, the HealthWell Foundation hosted a roundtable event to draw attention to the growing crisis of the underinsured and the related challenges of reducing financial barriers to care. Held at the National Press Club in Washington, DC, "Health Care in America: What About the Underinsured" featured a panel of highly-esteemed industry stakeholders, each representing a different perspective in the health care debate. Jonathan Cohn, Senior Editor of the New Republic and author of [Sick: The Untold Story of America's Health Care Crisis - and the People Who Pay the Price](#), moderated the discussion, which presented the views of a wide range of stakeholders, from business to labor and patient to provider. Each emphasized the dire need for a reformed health care system that adequately addresses not only the 47 million uninsured Americans in our country, but also the estimated 25-70 million underinsured. [Read more...](#) [View a short video clip from the event ...](#)

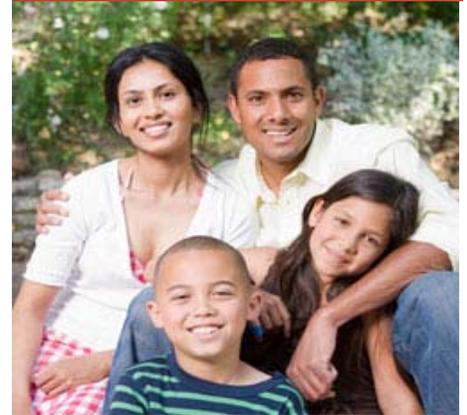
HealthWell in the News

The HealthWell Foundation continues to be featured in media across the country. Here are a few of the latest highlights:

Huffington Post - HealthWell Foundation beneficiary Virginia Pivik discusses her emotional and financial struggles in battling breast cancer in this story that details the positive impact that co-payment foundations can have on patients' lives (" [Underinsured but Cancer-Free Thanks in Part to Charity Help](#)" 09/23/09).

Philanthropy News Digest - HealthWell Foundation President Stephen Weiner discusses the role of copayment foundations as a temporary safety net for the underinsured in this bylined article on health care reform (" [Commentary & Opinion: Where the Healthcare System Falters, Philanthropies Step In.](#)" 09/15/09).

Donate Now



HealthWell Making a Difference

I am a social worker who refers dialysis patients to the Secondary Hyperparathyroidism fund, as well as a recipient of asthma grants for my daughter and myself.

The impact on my patients is immense. Medicare Part D co-payments for a single medication can run in excess of \$300 per month. Once the "doughnut hole" is reached, as it always is for this population, medication is unobtainable without help. I personally know dozens of dialysis patients who are able to maintain the health of their bones because of assistance from the HealthWell Foundation.

Through referring patients to HealthWell Foundation, I realized that my daughter and I could qualify for assistance with our asthma medications. Help from HealthWell has meant we no longer have to choose between making a co-payment vs. buying lunch or school supplies. No one becomes a Social Worker to become rich, but your help makes it easier for me to help others. Thank you on behalf of my patients, my daughter and myself.

*Diane,
Marysville, WA*



WHAT'S NEW? continued

HealthWell in the News

Health Leaders - HealthWell Foundation board member David Knowlton discusses the need for health care reform to also include those underinsured patients with chronic conditions in this article about preventive care (" [Health Plans: Removing Costs Can Spark Prevention](#)" 08/01/09).

Health2You Magazine - HealthWell Foundation board member David Knowlton discusses the importance of planning for a financial emergency and provides tips on ways to select the right health plan in this article on the underinsured (" [Are You Adequately Insured?](#)" 08/01/09).

DID YOU KNOW?

Tips and Tricks

Did you know that the HealthWell Foundation updated its enrollment application? We no longer accept applications with a publication date before 2008. If you need a copy of the new application, please contact us at info@healthwellfoundation.org.

Fund Update

Due to high demand, we are unable to accept new applications at this time for our Head and Neck Cancer (HNC), Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC), Hodgkin's, Myelodysplastic Syndromes (MDS) and Multiple Myeloma (MM) funds. Please follow up periodically to check on the status of these funds. In the meantime, please contact the following organizations for assistance:

NSCLC: Patient Access Network Foundation (866-316-7263), the Chronic Disease Fund (877-968-7233) or CancerCare (866-552-6729)

Hodgkin's: National Organization for Rare Diseases (NORD) (800-999-6673)

MM: Patient Access Network Foundation (866-316-7263), the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (877-557-2672), Patient Advocate Foundation (866-512-3861) or the Chronic Disease Fund (877-968-7233)

If you would like to support any of these disease areas, or the HealthWell Foundation in general, please email us at support@healthwellfoundation.org or call our Development Office at 888-508-7466.

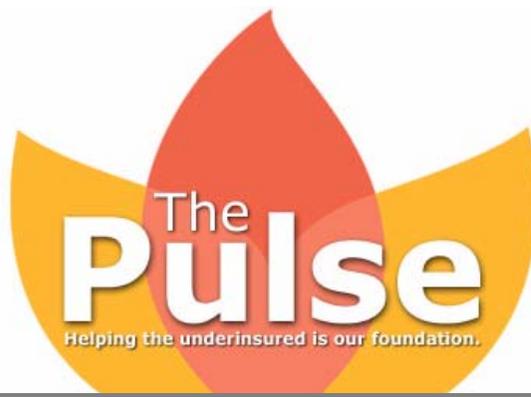
HealthWell Making a Difference

I received my first kidney transplant from my sister in 1996 when I was a 26-year-old seminary student and I rationed my medication so that I could pay my rent and car note....therefore I eventually lost that kidney...then I got another transplant once again before Medicare part D and HealthWell...once again the family had grown larger and my medication bills were a tremendous burden on the family and marriage...once again I often decided to pay the house note instead buying medication and once again the transplant failed...so back on dialysis...once again medications were a tremendous burden with a wife and 4 children and underinsured...as a youth minister...but one day my social worker told me about the HealthWell Foundation and how they would cover my most expensive medication... Hallelujah... Prayers Answered.

*Jason,
Carmel, Indiana*

Recently, I received notification that I had been awarded a grant to help cover the costs of my medications. I can't thank you enough for this financial assistance. Having to quit my job as a teacher after fifteen years was hard enough, but fighting the financial burdens that my illness have caused has been the most frustrating. I think you sincerely for the tremendous work that you are doing. I don't know how I could have gotten all of my medications filled without your help.

*Denise,
Millbrook, AL*



HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT OUR WORK

Spotlight on *Head and Neck Cancer*

The HealthWell Foundation established the Head and Neck Cancer (HNC) Fund in February 2006. Head and Neck Cancer (HNC) is responsible for approximately 3 to 5 percent of all cancers in the United States and is more common in people over the age of 50. It has been estimated that about 55,000 men and women in the country will develop HNC this year.

The HealthWell Foundation assists HNC patients with their co-payments for prescription medications associated with the disease or monthly insurance premiums. To date, HealthWell has awarded over \$1.4 million to close to 600 patients. We are currently experiencing an increase in patient requests for this fund and welcome donations of all sizes to help Head and Neck Cancer patients access the care they need. Every donation makes a difference!

Workplace Giving A Great Way to Boost Your Gift!

Does your employer offer a workplace giving or matching gifts program? If so, they may match your personal donation to HealthWell or allow you to make a donation through payroll deductions. To learn more, simply contact your Human Resources or Community Relations Department. If you are able to make a donation through this type of program, HealthWell will receive your charitable contribution directly from your employer.

Shop & Search Online Support HealthWell Every Time you Search the Web

GoodSearch.com is a Yahoo-powered search engine that gives back. Every time you search the Web with GoodSearch.com, a penny will be donated to HealthWell! To begin searching, visit <http://www.goodsearch.com/> and be sure to enter the HealthWell Foundation as the charity you want to support. And please help spread the word!

Share Your Story

Has HealthWell made a positive difference in your life or in the lives of the patients you help? If so, we want to hear from you! We invite you to share your HealthWell story by emailing us at support@healthwellfoundation.org [please indicate if we have your permission to share your story with others anonymously].

HealthWell Making a Difference

Very simply, HealthWell has given me and my family the most important asset one can have and that is the ability to treat and control crippling and debilitating diseases. HealthWell has enabled me to live a fairly "normal" life. Without their help I would be unable to function because of my illnesses. I am able to afford medicine that enables me to walk and enjoy a decent life. I could not be more appreciative nor could my wife and family. THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU !!!!!!!!!!!

*Michael,
Lutz, FL*

Whether it is sharing encouraging words or informing them that their grant is approved, everything that we do and say can change a person's day and I like knowing that I am a positive change for the people that I speak to.

*Danielle,
HealthWell Program Specialist*

Donate Now