



January 2010 Quarterly e-News

WHAT'S NEW?

HealthWell Foundation Sets Patient Service Record in 2009

As HealthWell kicks-off its 7th year of assisting patients, we are coming off of another record year for our program. We experienced a 40% increase in demand for copayment and premium assistance last year, due to the economic climate and an increase in referrals from other copayment foundations. Thanks to our dedicated team of program specialists and our generous donors and partners, we were able to respond to the surge in demand and help more than 50,500 patients afford their medical treatments last year.

Additional HealthWell highlights include:

- Welcoming Mary Sundeen as the organization's Executive Director
- Launching a new fund to help patients with Glioblastoma Multiforme and Anaplastic Astrocytoma bringing our total to 26 disease funds
- Hosting a [health care roundtable event](#) in Washington, DC with more than 50 health care experts and stakeholders to provide a voice for the underinsured during the health care debate
- Reaching over 60 million people through stories in more than 100 [national and regional news outlets](#)

Forbes.com Rates HealthWell 12th Most Efficient Charity in America

For a second year in a row, HealthWell was named to Forbes.com's [annual list of America's 200 largest charities](#). HealthWell was rated the 12th most efficient charity and one of 19 charities with 100% fundraising efficiency!

Now more than ever, you can confidently give to HealthWell knowing that every dollar donated goes directly to work for patients. Please join our efforts to ensure that we can continue to make a difference in the lives of the underinsured. [Your generous gift](#) will help patients pay for life-changing medical treatments they otherwise wouldn't be able to afford.

HealthWell Launches New Funds to Help Patients with Hepatitis and CMV

In January, HealthWell opened a new Hepatitis fund designed to assist eligible patients with their out of pocket costs associated with the treatment of Hepatitis B or C. In addition, we opened a Cytomegalovirus (CMV) disease fund to help eligible patients with their out-of-pocket costs associated with the treatment or prevention of CMV disease. To apply for assistance to any of these funds online, please [click here](#), or call our toll-free hotline (800) 675-8416.

Donate Now



HealthWell Making a Difference

I cannot adequately explain how much pressure is relieved by the fact that HealthWell has chosen to help my husband. He has a lot on his plate, and he's a great guy, always wanting to help others. Well, he needs help sometimes, too, and the fact that there is a foundation like HealthWell, and people who care enough to actually support people like us, deeply touches our hearts.

Right now, we have many financial demands, but in the midst of them, we are profoundly grateful and more able to bear the struggle, because HealthWell is helping. In short, Bob wouldn't be able to function well without his medicine. How do we adequately say thank you for helping him stay on his feet and be the husband, father, and breadwinner that in his heart he yearns to be? Also, your aid helps make it possible for him to take a rest when his body demands rest, instead of working, working, working - when he knows he should be resting - because he's worried about how he can pay for insurance. You can't put a price tag on that.

*Bob and Barbara,
Houston, TX*



WHAT'S NEW? continued

HealthWell in the News

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

CNN - The HealthWell Foundation is listed as a resource for the underinsured in this story on ways for patients to save money on health care expenses ("[Top Empowered Patient Tips for 2010](#)," January, 2010).

Caring4Arthritis - HealthWell Foundation board member David Knowlton provides commentary on ways for underinsured patients to find financial assistance with the help of co-payment foundations ("[Money Matters: Five Tips for Covering Health Care Costs](#)," December, 2009).

DID YOU KNOW?

Tips and Tricks

In order to serve more patients, the Healthwell Foundation has streamlined the re-enrollment process. As patients approach the need to re-enroll, there are some patients that fortunately no longer need our assistance. Instead of sending out a full application, we will send a brief re-enrollment reminder letter. If assistance is still needed, we ask that you contact the Foundation at (800) 675-8416 for a re-enrollment application.

Fund Update

We are pleased to announce the re-opening of our Head and Neck Cancer fund and Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer fund. To apply for assistance to any of these funds online, please [click here](#), or call our toll-free hotline at (800) 675-8416.

Due to high demand, we are unable to accept new applications at this time for our Iron Overload, 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:

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

Iron Overload: Chronic Disease Fund (877-968-7233)

MDS: Chronic Disease Fund (877-968-7233), Patient Advocate Foundation (866-512-3861) or Patient Access Network Foundation (866-316-7263)

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 (240) 632-5300.

HealthWell Making a Difference

For most of my life, I have been fortunate enough to always provide for myself and my needs and donate to charities for those less fortunate. I never really know how it would feel to be "on the other side." I had my "awakening" when I found I could not afford to purchase the medication to treat my breast cancer. Thank you, from the bottom of my heart, for providing for my medication and helping me to realize the good news that does exist in our world.

*Marianne,
Tarpon Springs, FL*

God bless your organization! I received a liver transplant in 2008, and had to pay expensive COBRA premiums for over a year. This exhausted our savings and when I was notified my rates were going up 150.00 a month more in January, I felt helpless. I had no idea how I was going to take care of insurance. I felt like giving up. Your people saved my world by agreeing to pay my premiums until I am eligible for Medicare. I feel like now there is a huge weight off my shoulders. Your agents have all been very helpful and compassionate.

*Kevin,
Lawrence, KS*



HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT OUR WORK

Spotlight on *Wilms' Tumor*

Wilms' Tumor is a rare form of Kidney Cancer that occurs predominantly in children. At a rate of 90%, it is the most common type of kidney cancer that occurs in children. This disease mainly affects children around the ages of 3 to 4 years old and occurs rarely after the age of 6 years. In most cases the tumors are unilateral, occurring in one kidney and approximately 5 to 10 percent are bilateral occurring in both kidneys. Wilms' occurs in about 8 in 1 million children under the age of 14 years. Detection of this disease may be difficult because tumors can grow without causing any pain, however a common indicator may be an abdominal mass that may be felt by a parent or by a doctor during a routine check up. Similar to other forms of cancer, the treatment includes surgery, chemotherapy and radiation. The HealthWell Foundation has a fund to assist Wilms' Tumor patients with their copayments for prescription medications or monthly insurance premiums.

We invite you to help Wilms' Tumor patients access the care they need by [donating to the HealthWell Foundation today](#). Every donation makes a difference.

Shop & Search Online Support HealthWell When You Buy and Sell Items on Ebay

The next time you buy or sell something on eBay, you can support HealthWell with the eBay Giving Works program. If you are a seller, simply list your item on eBay, select HealthWell Foundation as your charity, and choose the percentage you would like to donate to us. If you are a buyer, every time you buy an item, the seller will donate between 10% and 100% of the sale to HealthWell. [Get started now!](#)

Share Your Story

If HealthWell has made a positive difference in your life or in the life of someone you know, we want to hear from you! If you are a patient, family member, provider or advocate, we invite you to share your story with us about your experience with HealthWell. We also welcome other creative forms of expression such as artwork, poetry or photos. [Tell us your story!](#)

HealthWell Making a Difference

The company I work for has a self funded health care plan. After my diagnosis the copays and coinsurance kept going up and up. I am very young (45) to have such an aggressive case of this disease and with children going to college and young ones still at home I would not have been able to afford my treatments. I would have either lost my job or have been forced to quit due to long hours on my feet and the debilitating nature of this disease. I am so very grateful to your foundation for having intervened on my behalf and stabilized a desperate family situation. You have not only made a difference in my life, but have influenced the lives of my children who have a dad who can still provide for them.

*Matt
Bellwood, PA*

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