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Catching the Dream Catchers

An Ojibwe legend holds that a spider woman named “Asibikaashi” would take care of communities and particularly children. In some Native American tribes, women would weave magical webs in willow hoops to assist Asibikaashi, believing these “dream catchers” trap bad dreams so only good thoughts surround their children.

With gratitude to Native Americans for this meaningful symbol, our Health Partners Foundation seeks to support local dream catchers who help take care of our community. These include the many business colleagues, organizations, individuals and our employees who financially support or volunteer their time for our Foundation. Thanks to them, the Foundation’s efforts continue to grow, so we can do more of the projects described in this annual report, including our Be There perfect attendance incentives and Make Dreams Reality scholarships.

The Making a Difference Awards reception allows us to also honor dream catchers in our community, who were nominated by employees who research and present them to our Foundation Board. This year, the competition was particularly strong! Our 2014 Making a Difference Award winner is the One Less Foundation for offering financial literacy education, college preparation, mentoring, and life coaching through the Promise Academy at MLK high school and in other locations. Quental Thermilus, a busy HPP Medicare and CHIP representative, introduced us to the important work this group is doing.

Our Junior Partners awardee, Musa Konneh, is a wonderful example of youth who give back to their community and maintain high grades. Musa’s caring compassion for families of transplant patients shows in his volunteer work at Gift of Life Family House. Musa was recommended by his Health Occupations Student Association instructor, Olga Torres, from Jules Mastbaum Area Vocational Technical School, and nominated by Claudia Tucker-Keto, our Community Education Manager.

Our 2014 Partners Award goes to Maureen Fitzgerald, for starting My Daughter’s Kitchen after-school program that teaches good nutrition and teamwork while preparing healthy recipes students can take home. Catherine McCarron, our Director of Accreditation and Clinical Programs, gave a lively presentation on this group to our Board.

We are proud to recognize these caring folks and their organizations. May their good works inspire us to dream big for our communities – and continue to help make those dreams come true.

William S. George
Foundation Programs

Be There! Perfect Attendance kicks off each year in several area schools with a program on the importance of showing up for school each day. Certificates were awarded at targeted schools to over 1,250 high school students last year and more than 6,000 students since the program’s inception.

Make Dreams Reality scholarships award students with grants that help bridge the gap between available funding and college or technical school expenses. For the first time in Health Partners Foundation history, four out of six students received multi-year scholarships during the course of their academic years. Since the inception of the Make Dreams Reality scholarship program in 2005, seventy-four scholarships have been awarded.

Healthy Advances youth awards have been presented since 2006 to stimulate interest in the sciences among urban youth. A cash award is given to the winning student and his/her school through the annual George Washington Carver Science Fair for grades four to six.
Thanksgiving turkeys donated by the Foundation and generous vendors, along with groceries provided by Health Partners Plans employees, fill over 200 baskets with enough food for the holiday and a few other meals. Employees personally deliver the baskets to local community organizations, neighborhood centers and families in need.

Emergency Relief for Families in Crisis: Through the Chill program, the Foundation provides fans to underserved residents in the region and children with special needs. HPF also assists in crisis situations, including potential loss of winter heat, hot weather emergencies, and expenses related to fires or other disasters.

Annual Workplace Campaign: Each year employees have the opportunity to renew their Foundation commitment through the annual Workplace Campaign. For over a decade, the percentage of employees contributing to the Foundation has grown and now stands at over 72 percent. The Health Partners Plans board of trustees also supports our effort by matching employee donations.

The Health Partners Foundation also provides small grants to local organizations to help kick off new programs striving to make neighborhoods successful or bridge gaps in their current funding. We try to be the glue that keeps services — and hope — alive for those committed, hard-working groups that just need a helping hand to keep going.
Making a Difference Awards

Each year, Health Partners Foundation recognizes outstanding individuals and organizations whose extraordinary contributions have made a difference in their communities.

Past Partners Awardees

- **2013** Michaelanne Helms, Director
  Ayuda Community Center Orange Korners Art Program

- **2012** Yvette Dickerson, Nafatari Manigault
  Project Grad/Pennsylvania College Access Challenge Grant Program

- **2011** Lisa Nutter, President of Philadelphia Academies, Inc.

- **2010** Terri J. Brown, Founder and Executive Director
  We Are S.E.E.D.S.

- **2009** Dr. Carmen Febo, Director of Tallerpuertorriqueno,

- **2008** Salome Thomas-El, Principal and best-selling author of
  *I Choose to Stay: A Black Teacher Refuses to Desert the Inner City*

- **2007** LuAnn Randall, Dedicated nurse

- **2006** Dorothy Johnson-Speight, Founder and Executive Director,
  Mothers In Charge

- **2005** Lloyd Ayers, Philadelphia Fire Dept Commissioner:

- **2004** Dr. Mark Goldstein, Special Smiles Founder

- **2003** Glen Miller, Guy Appel, Interphase Medical, Inc.,
  Milt Pixley and Chris Chambers, CMI Graphics, Inc.

Past Making a Difference Organizational Awardees

- **2013** The Martin Luther King Older Adult Center & Philadelphia
  Childrens Foundation

- **2012** New Kensington Community Development Corporation &
  Turning Points for Children

- **2011** Federation of Neighborhood Centers & Philadelphia Chinatown
  Development Corporation

- **2010** Philadelphia Health Federation 2009

- **2009** The Food Trust

- **2008** George Washington Carver Science Fair

- **2007** Council for Spanish Speaking Organizations (Concilio) 2006

- **2006** Philadelphia Senior Center

- **2005** Bucks County YWCA 2004

- **2003** Philadelphia Center for Literacy
Health Partners Foundation

Source of Funds

- Owners
- Employees
- Vendors
- Others

Use of Funds

- Administration
- Scholarships
- Food and Clothing
- Gift Giving
- Anti-violence Initiatives
- Other Educational Initiatives
- Emergency Relief
2013-2014 Acknowledgments

Employees

Special thanks to the Health Partners Plans Board of Directors, employees and friends who have supported the Foundation throughout the year, including:

Patricia Ackerman
Erica Adams
Karen Armstrong
Bonnie Arva
Hal Augustine
Johnna Baker
Debra Bartush
Tracey Bennett
Jacqueline Benson
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Kenetta Bishop
Danyelle Blackwell
Judy Bonat
Gregory Brown
Peggy Butterworth
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List as of 10/1/14