



**Catalyst** is a semi-annual online newsletter designed to *advance* people and organizations that produce positive change, *promote* programs and policies that improve health and healthcare, and *connect* people, programs and resources across Georgia. **Catalyst** amplifies the voice of nonprofit health organizations and efforts to promote better health and health care in Georgia.



## President's Corner

**Surviving and Thriving in a Down Economy**  
A **severe economic downturn** such as the one we are now experiencing makes the work of nonprofits and the foundations that support them more important than ever. [>> more](#)

## Foundation Events

**Connections 2010**  
Healthcare Georgia Foundation announces plans to convene its **Connections 2010** Grantee and Partner Conference in metropolitan Atlanta. [>> more](#)

**The 2010 Listening Tour**  
Initiated in the summer of 2002, the Foundation launched a series of listening tours with health providers, health consumers, and policymakers for the purpose of giving voice to those who both shape and are affected by the

## In Support of Our Grantmaking Priority Areas

### Addressing Health Disparities

#### Renewing our Efforts in Support of Tobacco Control

*There is no such thing as a risk-free level of secondhand smoke*  
The Georgia Smokefree Air Act of 2005 prohibits smoking inside most public areas and outlines specific guidelines. The Act allows for more restrictive local rules and regulations defining where smoking is allowed. We are pleased to announce that Georgia Public Interest Research Group and Americans for Nonsmokers Rights (both Foundation grantees) will each be intensifying their efforts to establish smoke-free environments. [>> more](#)

#### Unequal Access and Unequal Outcomes

*Foundation to convene advisory committee on health disparities*  
Healthcare Georgia Foundation has invested over \$9 million in efforts to achieve greater health equity, with substantial contributions directed at addressing chronic disease management, increasing public awareness and engagement in health disparities, and strengthening the health care safety net for the underserved/uninsured across Georgia. [>> more](#)

#### Disability Advocates to Share Strategies with Healthcare Georgia Foundation

In November 2008, Healthcare Georgia Foundation will convene representatives of Georgia's disability community engaged in health advocacy. [>> more](#)

[>> more Addressing Health Disparities](#)

### Expanding Access to Primary Healthcare

#### Childhood Asthma Program to Receive \$2.65 million over 3 years

In September 2008, the Foundation announced and released a request for proposals (RFP) to improve asthma outcomes among Georgia's children and adolescents. The Georgia Childhood Asthma Management Program is designed to improve asthma

health of the state.

[>> more](#)

## Foundation Publications

### 2007 Annual Report

[Georgia's Health Safety Net: In pursuit of Health Equity](#) (PDF)

*Beyond Translation and Tolerance: Cultural Competence in Healthcare Organizations*, by Dr. Eleanor Hook (coming soon)

## Foundation News

### Staff Updates

#### Martha Katz to Retire

The Foundation's revered and respected director of health policy will retire in December 2008. Martha has been with the Foundation since 2003 following years of service with the National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. As a nationally recognized public health policy advocate Martha brought to the Foundation a disciplined approach to health policy and an innovative strategy of incorporating policy into the Foundation's grantmaking portfolio. Her thought leadership will be greatly missed!

On Martha's behalf, the Foundation will host an

management among children and adolescent populations by establishing and supporting coordinated, comprehensive evidence-based programs that foster linkages among those responsible for asthma care for children (medical providers, schools, community organizations, and families). [>> more](#)

#### It's About Time:

#### Georgia Needs a Statewide Trauma System

*We Need Your Help*

Getting the right patient to the right hospital at the right time would save the lives of hundreds of Georgians each year. Motor vehicle crashes, falls, gunshot wounds and other traumatic injuries cause over 5,400 deaths in Georgia and results in over 100,000 calls for Emergency Medical Services (EMS). Trauma patients who receive care at a trauma center within the first hour following injury have a better chance of survival. However, Georgia is served by only 15 trauma centers and it does not have a comprehensive, coordinated statewide trauma system.

[>> more](#)

#### Strengthening Georgia's Health Safety Net

In recognition of the tremendously important role of the health safety net in Georgia, the Foundation has conducted two separate requests for proposals (RFP's) from free clinics across the state that provide quality health care at little or no cost to the patient. [>> more](#)

#### Presidential Candidates on Health Reform

Do you know the position of the candidates on health care? To learn more about their positions and how they plan to address health care reform, visit:

- [Commonwealth Fund](#)
- [Kaiser Family](#)
- [Health Affairs](#)

[>> more Expanding Access to Primary Healthcare](#)

### Strengthening Nonprofit Health Organizations

#### HealthTec<sup>dl</sup> Begins 40 Program Broadcast for Georgia Nonprofits

Distance learning for Georgia nonprofit health organizations ([www.healthtecdl.org](http://www.healthtecdl.org)) launched its 40+ **program** series of audio/video webcasts. The first two events were hosted by Southwest Georgia AHEC (SOWEGA), and took place over the summer. The initial session, [Pathway to Med School Admission Forum](#) featured deans of Georgia medical schools. The second session, [The Prospects for a Healthy Georgia: Budget, Tax and Legislative 2009 Update](#) featured Allen Essig from the GBPI and Linda Lowe, a former Healthcare Georgia Foundation Board of Director.

**Open House on  
December 3rd from  
3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**  
at the Foundation office  
(50 Hurt Plaza, Suite  
1100) for those wishing  
to attend.

**Bene' Williams**, joined  
the Foundation as a  
grants associate. Bene'  
comes to the Foundation  
from Georgia Perimeter  
College and prior to  
CNN. Welcome, Bene'!

## Health Facts

- Only 4 states spend less than Georgia on tobacco prevention as a percent of its tobacco revenues.
- Georgia's trauma death rate is significantly higher than the national average and if a statewide trauma system improved the death rate to the national average... it would mean saving hundreds of lives every year.
- In Georgia, approximately 10% (250,000) of children younger than 17 years old have asthma. Further, it is estimated that 15% (56,000) of Georgia's middle school students and 16% (70,000) of high school students have asthma.

**To view past sessions, click on the links below:**

- [Pathway to Med School Admissions Forum](#)
- [The Prospects for Healthy Georgia: Budget, Tax and Legislative 2009 Update](#)
- [Developing Written Asthma Action Plans](#)
- [Diabetes: Using the American Association of Diabetes Educators 7 \(AADE 7\) in Diabetes Self-Care Management](#)
- [Exploring Oral Health Professions](#)

**Upcoming events include:**

**November 14:** [NIH Asthma Guidelines](#)

For the complete schedule and free session registration, visit [www.healthtecdl.org](http://www.healthtecdl.org).

### Grant Applicant Survey

*We want to hear and learn from you!*

Every two years, Healthcare Georgia Foundation undertakes an assessment of its grantmaking policies and procedures by surveying organizations that have applied to the Foundation for funding. In 2009, an independent contractor will be contacting many of you with a request to complete a confidential and anonymous evaluation of the Foundation. [>> more](#)

[>> more Strengthening Nonprofit Health Organizations](#)

Leading the Way:  
Trauma Care

