



## **January 21, 2010 — 2010 Access Grant Deadlines and Guidelines**

Guidelines for the 2010 *Connecting Consumers with Care*, *Strengthening the Voice for Access*, and *Innovation Fund for the Uninsured* grant program areas will be available in July. Letters of inquiry from prospective grantees will be due in September; deadlines will be posted at [BlueCrossFoundation.org](http://BlueCrossFoundation.org) in July.

If you want to be notified by email when the guidelines are available, please send an email to [info@bcbsmafoundation.org](mailto:info@bcbsmafoundation.org) and we will add you to our mailing list.

*Connecting Consumers with Care* supports community-based organizations, community health centers, and select hospital-based programs that help low-income consumers enroll in MassHealth, Commonwealth Care, the Health Safety Net, and other public and private health access programs, and connect with providers.

*Strengthening the Voice for Access* provides core operating support to organizations that promote community-based policy activities, increase citizen participation in public policy development, and promote collaboration among statewide policy and advocacy organizations on health access issues for uninsured and low-income people.

The *Innovation Fund for the Uninsured* supports organizations that improve the organization, continuity, and completeness of care for the uninsured.

In 2009, the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation awarded \$2.22 million to 56 community health organizations around the state. Grants ranged from \$20,000 to \$75,000.

### **More about the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation**

The mission of the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation is to expand access to health care. Through grants and policy initiatives, the Foundation works with public and private organizations to broaden health coverage and reduce barriers to care. It focuses on developing measurable and sustainable solutions that benefit uninsured, vulnerable and low-income individuals and families in the Commonwealth, and served as a catalyst for the pioneering Massachusetts health care reform law passed in 2006. The Foundation was founded in 2001 with an initial endowment of \$55 million from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts. The Foundation operates separately from the company and is governed by its own 18-member Board of Directors. It is one of the largest private health philanthropies in New England and in 2007 was awarded the Paul Ylvisaker Award for Public Policy Engagement by the Council on Foundations for its work on Massachusetts health care reform.