



CONTACT: Betsy Storm, Top Drawer Communications, Chicago, IL
(312) 421-1510 or (312) 401-5222; betsystorm@topdrawercommunications.com

GE Foundation Grants \$1.25 million to Chicago- area Health Centers, including Heartland International Health Center

Funds increase healthcare access to Chicago's neediest

CHICAGO - JUNE 24, 2011- [Heartland International Health Center](#) (HIHC) has been awarded a \$250,000 grant from the GE Foundation, the philanthropic arm of GE. A division of Heartland Alliance for Human Needs and Human Rights, HIHC was one of five Chicago-area community health centers selected as grant recipients by the [GE Foundation](#) and GE Corporate Diversity Council's Developing Health Chicago initiative. Grantees will all receive individual grants of \$250,000 over the next two years. The objective of the company's "Developing Health" program is to increase access to primary care for underserved and uninsured populations throughout the city.

The effort that enables public and nonprofit sectors to work in partnership is part of a nationwide program on GE's part. Chicago was the 14th city to be targeted for this generous funding initiative.

The grants were awarded at a June 20, 2011 event held at Uplift School in Chicago's Uptown neighborhood, where one of Heartland's nine community health centers is located.

In addition to funding, recipients received a three-year pledge of pro bono employee volunteer support from GE's Chicago employee base of more than 3,000.

"Our goal this year is to provide primary health care, dental health services and behavioral health services to nearly 20,000 individuals who live in some of the poorest neighborhoods on the north side of Chicago," said Gwenn Rausch, executive director, HIHC. "Our longer range vision is to become a national leader in community-based health care by advancing innovative service models and patient-centered best practices."

Said Mike Barber, GE VP, healthymagination, "Chicago is the third largest metropolitan area in the country. This program and the volunteers supporting it are a living example of GE's "healthymagination" strategy, to help change the world's approach to healthcare by touching more lives and improving quality of care."

-MORE-

GE Awards \$250,000 Grant to HIHC
add 1

Seeking to build stronger relationships between patients and doctors, GE created [healthymagination](#) to gather, share and discuss healthy ideas.

In addition to HIHC, recipients include: Alivio Medical Center, Aunt Martha's Youth Service Center-Carpentersville Community Health Center, Howard Brown Health Center and the Near North Health Service Corporation.

About Heartland International Health Center: The mission of Heartland International Health Center is to improve the well being of the communities it serves by providing accessible, high-quality healthcare. HIHC is an affiliate of Heartland Alliance for Human Needs & and Human Rights, an organization that has helped people living in poverty or danger to improve their lives and realize their human rights since 1888. HIHC provides a medical home on the north side of Chicago where patients receive primary care, mental health care and oral health services regardless of their ability to pay.

About the GE Foundation: The GE Foundation, the philanthropic organization of the General Electric Company, works to solve some of the world's most difficult problems. In coordination with its partners, it supports U.S. and international education, developing health globally, the environment, public policy, human rights and disaster relief. In 2010, the entire GE family – including businesses, employees, retirees and GE Foundation – contributed more than an estimated \$250 million in cash, products, and services to charitable organizations around the world. For more information, visit www.gefoundation.com.

###

Caption:

Gwenn Rausch, Executive Director, Heartland International Health Center, with Mike Barber, GE VP, healthymagination (left) and Jeff Malehorn, president and CEO of GE Capital, Commercial Distribution Finance/GE Corporate Citizenship Leader in Chicago.