

Western Massachusetts

Health Access Network Notes



COMMUNITY PARTNERS, INC.

July 6, 2007

Jones Library – Amherst, MA

GUEST PRESENTATION

Massachusetts Institute for Community Health Leadership:

Michael McCormack, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation

Purpose

The purpose of the Massachusetts Institute for Community Health Leadership (MICHL) is to develop the next generation of leadership in Massachusetts to effectively address the future opportunities and challenges in community-based low-income and uninsured health care. We would like to increase representation from Western Massachusetts.

History

The Foundation invited 22 leaders (including Michael DeChiara and Chip Joffe-Halpern) from community-based organizations, community health centers, advocacy groups, and government to design a program to develop and train a network of future leaders across the state. The program is now two years old.

Who should apply?

The Institute is for emerging leaders in the field of health care for the low-income and uninsured, people whose leadership potential has been developed through life experience – “trial by fire.” It is an opportunity for them to get some theory and some practical application from outstanding faculty.

Three key elements in enhancing leadership skills

- **Developing others:** collaboration, facilitative leadership, coaching, appreciating differences
- **Developing self:** seeing self as leader, reflecting on and creating/renewing commitment to the work, ongoing feedback from peers during program
- **Impacting the system:** understanding the larger view, identifying and working with other stakeholders, models of change

Structure of the program 2007-2008

MICHL is an 18-day residential program spread out over nine months (October – June). Most sessions occur at the Warren Conference Center in Ashland.

Up to 20 applicants are selected each year. While the actual cost is over \$9,000 per participant, each participant's organization is charged only \$500. The Institute covers the rest. Alternate options are available for those whose organizations would have difficulty meeting the \$500 cost.

For detailed information, visit www.Mass-Leadership.org