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Pacific Hospital PDA Announces \$100,000 Grant to Increase Access for Uninsured

SEATTLE, March 9, 2009 – The Pacific Hospital Preservation & Development Authority (PHPDA) Governing Council today announced a grant for \$100,000 to King County Project Access. King County Project Access works with local community clinics, specialists and hospitals to coordinate donated specialty care for the uninsured.

The PHPDA serves as a funder and a catalyst to foster system changes to improve access to specialty care for the uninsured. This work includes directly funding programs that provide care for the uninsured as well as supporting research to identify and eliminate barriers to access. The PHPDA was a founding supporter of KCPA in 2005 and has provided a grant to the organization each subsequent year.

“We believe the work of King County Project Access is a vital component for health care access,” explains Rosemary B. Aragon, Executive Director of the PHPDA. “By working with local providers they provide a model for how to improve health care access through the effective management of patient referrals and provider volunteers.”

More than 210 physicians and other health care providers currently volunteer with King County Project Access. Based on the principal of sharing the load of caring for the uninsured across a broad section of the provider community, providers commit to seeing a discrete number of uninsured each year. In 2008 more than 1100 patients were referred to KCPA for specialty care. KCPA was able to arrange specialty care appointments for more than 99% of the patients referred.

The Pacific Hospital Preservation & Development Authority partners with community organizations to improve access to health care services in Seattle/King County. In 1981 the City of Seattle chartered the Pacific Hospital Preservation and Development Authority, placing in its trust the Pacific Hospital and its surrounding campus, a historic Seattle Landmark. The PHPDA leases out the property and lease revenues are used to support health care access and culturally appropriate care in King County.

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