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Pacific Hospital PDA Announces \$150,000 Grant for King County Project Access

SEATTLE, January 22, 2010 – The Pacific Hospital Preservation & Development Authority Governing Council today announced a grant for \$150,000 to King County Project Access. King County Project Access coordinates donated specialty care services for the uninsured.

The Pacific Hospital PDA 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 Pacific Hospital PDA was a founding supporter of KCPA in 2006 and has provided a grant to the organization each subsequent year.

“King County Project Access is growing to meet the increased demand in our community and we want to support their efforts,” explains Rosemary B. Aragon, Executive Director of the Pacific Hospital PDA. “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 460 physicians and other health care providers currently volunteer with King County Project Access, an increase of more than 25% in one year. 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 2009 more than 1400 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 Pacific Hospital PDA leases out the property. The lease revenues are used to support health care access and culturally appropriate care in King County.

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