



Network of Ethnic Physician Organizations
 California Medical Association Foundation
*Optimal Wellness and Equality in Healthcare
 for All Communities*

JANUARY 2011 E-NEWSLETTER
 VOLUME 9, ISSUE 1

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Help us improve the
 health of California!
 Click here to donate.



SAVE THE DATE!

The California Medical Association Foundation and
 The Network of Ethnic Physician Organizations

Presents the

2011 ETHNIC PHYSICIAN LEADERSHIP SUMMIT Saturday & Sunday, September 17th-18th, 2011 "The Challenge of Health Care Reform"

Location: Northern California (City to be determined)

Visit www.ethnicphysicians.org to view 2010 summit highlights and presentations.
 If you have any questions, please contact Anna Gutiérrez, NEPO Project Assistant
agutierrez@thecmafoundation.org or (916) 779-6627.

FREE WEBINAR:

How to Enroll in the Federal EHR Incentive Programs A Webinar Invitation to All Physicians & Their Staff



In order to receive federal EHR incentives through either the Medicare or Medi-Cal program, physicians will have to register using a website established by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). On

this webinar, John Langmead from CMS Region IX will walk physicians through the new website, and explain what information will be needed in order to enroll in the incentive program. Hear directly from Regional Administrator, David Sayen, and Medical Director, Betty Thompson, MD about how to use the CMS EHR incentive program website.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH
 12:15 P.M.—1:15 P.M.

To Register for this free webinar, please visit

<https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/680964770>

Webinar Notice: Please register at least two (2) hours before the webinar in order to guarantee your attendance. Once registrants are validated, a confirmation email will be sent with instructions on how to join the webinar. **Questions?: 1-800-786-4262.**

Steven M. Thompson Physician Corps Loan Repayment Program and the Orange County Pediatric Specialties Physicians Loan Repayment Program

The Health Professions Education Foundation offers the Steven M. Thompson Physician Corps Loan Repayment Program. The purpose of this program is to encourage physicians to practice in medically underserved areas of California by authorizing a plan for repayment of their educational loans. Physicians may receive up to \$105,000 in exchange for their service in a designated underserved area for a minimum of three years. The deadline to submit your application is March 24, 2011.

The web link below will guide you to our Steven M. Physician Corps Loan Repayment Program: <http://www.oshpd.ca.gov/HPEF/STLRP.html>

The Health Professions Education Foundation administers the Orange County Pediatric Specialists Physicians Loan Repayment Program funded by the Children and Families Commission of Orange County. This program is designed to provide professional opportunities to interested pediatric sub-specialists by helping alleviate the debt associated with their education in exchange for a three-year commitment to serve underserved children in Orange County. The program repays up to \$125,000 of educational loans. The deadline to submit your application is March 24, 2011.

The web link below will guide you to the Orange County Specialties Physicians Loan Repayment program: <http://www.oshpd.ca.gov/HPEF/OCPSLRP.html>

CMA Foundation Now Accepting Applications for the Carlo Joseph Gerald Medical Student Scholarship

The *Carlo Joseph Gerald Medical Student Scholarship* funds will be used to assist medical students attending a California medical school (either MD or DO), who are in financial need and desire to be a primary care physician. This includes pediatricians, internists, family practice, and OB-GYN. The intent is to defray tuition for the scholarship recipient(s). Deadline for submission of application is March 1.

Requirements for selection of candidate:

1. Official confirmation from a California medical school of completion of a minimum of one year of medical school and verification of student's good standing. Applicant may apply during second or third year.
2. Submission of Curriculum Vitae to include community service activities.
3. Two letters of recommendations: at least one of whom is a medical school faculty member, a second who can be a physician, employer, advisor, or community service director.
4. One essay addressing the topic designated in the application.

For other stipulations and application form, please [Click here](#) or Contact Carol Lee at 916.779.6622 or clee@thecmafoundation.org for more information.

AMA Foundation Honors Dr. Rodney Hood for Increasing Access to Health Care in the U.S.



Rodney Hood, MD, a physician from San Diego, Calif., is a recipient of the 2011 Pride in the Profession Awards. Presented by the American Medical Association (AMA) Foundation, in association with Pfizer Inc, the award recognizes physicians who aid underserved populations in the U.S. The award will be presented on Tuesday, February 8, at the 2011 Excellence in Medicine Awards Ceremony, in conjunction with the AMA National Advocacy Conference in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Hood has made an impact on the issue of racial and ethnic health disparities in his own community of San Diego and throughout the United States. Dr. Hood describes himself as “a physician who always knew his destiny was to practice

medicine in a low-income area to give back to the community that helped raise him.” He opened his medical practice in 1976 in an underserved area of San Diego. Then, as well as now, residents of this community suffer from chronic diseases with health statistics that document higher rates of morbidity and mortality from diseases such as cancer, stroke, heart disease and HIV/AIDS. His private practice Careview Medical Group has expanded to four providers, and in 1994 he cofounded the Multicultural Primary Care Medical Group, IPA, now composed of over 100 primary care physicians and 200 specialists of Latino, African American, Asian and European ethnicities. This organization received a grant through the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation that created a network of private physicians to render care to patients with no or inadequate medical coverage. This initiative has evolved into Project Access currently sponsored by the San Diego County Medical Society Foundation.

In addition to working on these issues in San Diego, Dr. Hood has worked tirelessly on a national level, as President of the National Medical Association as well as a governing council member of the AMA Minority Affairs Consortium, to improve the systems that will reduce health care disparities. At the request of the Congressional Black Caucus he led several delegations to Cuba to evaluate their health delivery and health education system making recommendations that would help American medical students in Cuba have an easier path into U.S. residency programs as a solution to increase diversity in the work force. He is a passionate national speaker on issues that involve health equity in delivery of medical services, health policy and finances. His areas of expertise include medical history, racism in medicine, health inequities, cultural competency and the role of diversity in medicine, medical administration and financial models to combat health inequities.

Leonard Weather, Jr., R.Ph, MD, President of the National Medical Association, stated, “Dr. Hood has devoted his entire career to eliminating health care disparities for minorities and the underserved and ensuring that all Americans receive quality and affordable health care services. With the utmost integrity, he has for more than 20 years provided exemplary medical care to the patients that he serves.”

NEPO CALENDAR OF MEETINGS & EVENTS

Steering Committee Meeting
Saturday, February 5th
10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

REGIONAL MEETINGS ON
HEALTH INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY (HIT) AND
LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Central Valley
Fresno-Madera Medical Society
Saturday, February 26th, 2011
9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Los Angeles/Orange County
Location to be determined
Saturday, February 26th, 2011
9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

For more information or to RSVP,
please contact Anna Gutierrez at
916.779.6627 or
agutierrez@thecmafoundation.org

To submit articles or
announcements, please
contact:
agutierrez@thecmafoundation.org

The CMA Foundation reserves the
right to edit all contributions for
clarity and length, as well as the
right not to publish submitted
articles, for any reason.

NEPO Partnerships: HIT Outreach to Ethnic Physicians in Transitioning to EHR

NEPO is working with all three California RECs; *California Health Information Partnership and Services Organization* (CALHIPSO), HITEC-LA and *Cal-Optima Regional Extension Center* (COREC) to provide the most updated educational information and outreach to ethnic solo/small group physicians throughout California.

NEPO have officially signed an agreement with CALHIPSO as an “Outreach Partner” and will coordinate efforts with our Ethnic Physician Organizations (EPO) to participate in meetings with the RECs to learn about its services and resources for EHR adoption and implementation. Please check out our new HIT page on the NEPO website to get the most current information and resources on HIT.

CALHIPSO was founded by California Medical Association (CMA), the California Primary Care Association (CPCA) and the California Association of Public Hospitals & Health Systems (CAPH). CALHIPSO is a nonprofit, vendor-neutral organization that offers a variety of programs and services designed to help clinical providers transition from a paper-based practice to one that successfully uses electronic health records. CALHIPSO's extensive products and services are designed to help physicians navigate through the complicated world of electronic health record (EHR) implementation. Please see the attached flyer about CALHIPSO for more information.

CALHIPSO is the REC for the all of California except for Los Angeles and Orange Counties.

Beginning in 2011, Medicare and Medi-Cal will make payments between \$44,000 and \$63,750 per provider to those who can demonstrate that they are “meaningfully using” EHRs. The sooner you can demonstrate “meaningful use,” the more funding you will receive since EHR incentive payments will end in 2014.

If you are interested in participating in an informational meeting and/or wish to coordinate a meeting with you and your EPO, please contact the Anna Gutierrez at (916) 779-6627 or agutierrez@thecmafoundation.org.



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[Click here to subscribe!](#)



**Helping California Clinicians
Successfully Transition to
Electronic Health Record Systems**

About CalHIPSO

The Trusted Advisor in Health IT.

- The California Health Information Partnership and Services Organization (CalHIPSO) is an independent, non-profit, vendor neutral organization founded by clinical providers, for clinical providers. CalHIPSO's founding partners are the California Medical Association (CMA), the California Primary Care Association (CPCA) and the California Association of Public Hospitals & Health Systems (CAPH).
- Provides technical assistance, guidance and information on best practices to support and accelerate providers' efforts to become meaningful users of certified EHR technology.
- Part of a national network of 62 regional extension centers with direct, rapid and reliable access to a pipeline of key information on health IT and meaningful EHR use.
- Made up of ten Local Extension Centers (LECs) around the state, that bring health information technology (HIT) expertise to local communities.

Benefits of Joining CalHIPSO

CalHIPSO understands the challenges associated with EHR adoption. Our wide variety of programs and services are designed to help transition a paper-based practice to one that successfully uses EHR.

CalHIPSO's membership benefits include:

- Access to group purchasing discounts
- Assistance locating qualified EHR vendors
- Project management services
- Access to extensive training and education
- Assistance with demonstrating meaningful use in order to begin receiving the federal incentive payments

Who is Eligible?

If you are a prescribing health care provider (MD, DO, PA, NP, CNMW) and work in an ambulatory care setting, you are eligible to join CalHIPSO now! Priority primary care providers (PPCPs) will receive access to subsidized services. Non-PPCPS can access our services on a fee-for-service basis.



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E-mail: info@calhipso.org**

Visit us online at www.calhipso.org and click on "Join Now"