The Philanthropy Ohio Health Initiative began after the passage of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, as a member-initiated coalition whose collective work is managed by Philanthropy Ohio. Modeled after our successful education initiative, the coalition is a group of Philanthropy Ohio members from across the state. These members came together in mid-2010, to build their common understanding not only of the new law but also become informed of the state's implementation plans and to explore how Ohio's private funders might help in that regard. Ohio, with its second largest number of health-focused foundations in the country, has foundations with deep experience and commitment to improving the health of residents and working with government to do so.

The Initiative began formally in early 2011, with funds provided by coalition members to hire a project manager supervised by Philanthropy Ohio. Five primary goals guide the direction of coalition work:

- Engage in a public education campaign, disseminating accurate, non-partisan information through websites, info sheets and community forums;
- Become better informed, more effective grantmakers in the health funding area by participating in education events;
- Assist the Kasich administration implement health care reform in Ohio, building relationships that demonstrate the roles funders can play;
- Identify ways to collaborate regionally and statewide in funding opportunities; and
- Support policy changes to improve the health care system in Ohio.

Five coalition members submitted a request to Grantmakers in Health (GIH) for a $15,000 grant to support the state's efforts to access federal grants related to health care reform implementation in the state. The request was supported by the Ohio Department of Health, which with budget cuts in recent years had lost funding available to pay grant writers. GIH awarded $15,000, which was matched by the five coalition members, and the Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation received and manages the funds. To date, two grants have covered the costs of writing proposals for federal funds.

For more information about the coalition and its work, please contact Philanthropy Ohio at 614.224.1344. Participation in the Initiative is open to all Philanthropy Ohio members.
The Philanthropy Ohio Health Initiative envisions a future where the health system supports health promotion and disease prevention as well as patient-centered, quality care accessible by all Ohioans. Such a system is characterized by and built upon the following principles:

**Ohio’s health system is aligned to promote health and wellness through:**
- Improving the public health system
- Increasing the emphasis on prevention
- Integrating behavioral and physical health
- Reducing health disparities

**Health care is coordinated and patient centered through:**
- Creating and expanding Patient Centered Medical Homes
- Connecting patients to a usual source of health care
- Sharing electronic health information
- Growing the primary care workforce

**Ohio’s health care system is financially sustainable through:**
- Individuals have access to affordable care and choice of coverage
- Payment reform that rewards outcomes rather than transactions and volume
- Public private partnerships

**Ohioans are able to make informed choices about their coverage and care because:**
- Information throughout the health care systems is transparent and easily comparable
- Implementation of a unbiased public education campaign informs decisions
- Consumer-friendly navigation support through an insurance exchange is free and readily available

Adopted November 13, 2012