

PORTICO HEALTHNET

Partnering for Community Health



The mission of Portico Healthnet is to reduce the number of people without coverage for health care services.

Portico Healthnet is a nonprofit organization that helps uninsured Minnesotans access affordable health care coverage and services. Portico was created in 1995 by a local hospital system in order to better utilize funds being spent to cover uncompensated emergency room care. The program has grown over the years to include fourteen local hospitals and several local health plans.

During 2008, generous support from the United Way and local corporations and foundations enabled Portico outreach staff to screen over 13,000 uninsured and underinsured individuals for eligibility under various health care coverage options. Over 8,000 referrals were provided to public and private health care resources, and nearly 3,800 individuals were assisted in applying for Medical Assistance, MinnesotaCare and other state-funded public assistance programs.

For those screened individuals ineligible for public coverage, Portico offers its own primary and preventive health care access program funded by grants and financial commitments from hospitals and health plans located in Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey and Washington counties in the Minneapolis-St Paul metro area. Eligibility is based on residency within these four counties (population 2.5M+), and annual income falling beneath 275 percent of Federal Poverty Guidelines.

The Portico coverage program provides access to primary and preventive medical care (including interpreter services if necessary), specialty medical care, outpatient mental health services and prescription medications. A key component of this prevention-based model is ongoing interaction with an assigned care manager, who provides personalized assistance and coaching around how to access services paid for by Portico and how to use the health care system effectively. Ongoing survey research shows a sustained 30-40 percent drop in emergency room use among newly enrolled Portico coverage program participants.

Over 1,400 uninsured individuals were participating in Portico's coverage program during 2008. Another 600-plus individuals were on a waiting list due to the program operating at full funded capacity in Dakota, Ramsey, and portions of Washington counties. The number of Portico coverage participants is expected to exceed 2,000 uninsured individuals by the end of 2009 as coverage program capacity is expanded.

Through public program enrollments and the Portico coverage program, Portico Healthnet infused approximately \$8 million into Minnesota's health care delivery system during 2008.

2008 Total Revenue and Support **\$2,773,394**

Foundation and Corporate Grants	43%
Hospital Partner Contributions	36%
Earned Income	11%
United Way Support	5%
Government Grants and Contracts	4%
Other	1%

For more information, please contact:

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