



Healthcare & Accessibility

www.verizonfoundation.org

The Verizon Foundation invests in projects that provide technology to help underserved populations and people with disabilities access information about critical health issues. We also support innovative technology that helps healthcare providers increase their effectiveness and reach.

We are adapting technologies to help healthcare providers improve their accuracy, efficiency and reach.

- > *The Fund for Public Health in New York City* is testing the effectiveness of text messaging reminders from physicians to patients in the Bronx. Patients are reminded of doctors' appointments, medication adherence, vaccinations and lab results.
- > *Johns Hopkins Hospital Pilot Program* uses innovative robotic technology to provide emergency room patients with rapid consultations, reducing waiting time in the emergency room. Patients interface with personal doctors and specialists through a robot, while its sophisticated computer allows physicians to review X-rays and test results remotely.

We are helping people with chronic diseases or disabilities live productive, independent lives.

- > *Massachusetts General Hospital Diabetes Management Program* provides patients with access to a secure Web site where they can track their blood glucose readings, diet, exercise and medication adherence, all of which can be reviewed by their healthcare providers.
- > *Community Hospital of San Bernardino Pediatric Asthma Management Project* uses broadband technology to make medical records available instantly to healthcare providers, facilitating access to information for patient care.

We are supporting initiatives that improve healthcare services and information for diverse populations.

- > *California Institute for Telecommunications & Information Technology – UC Irvine Telemedicine Program* provides specialty care to 200 uninsured/underinsured, elderly and low-income patients throughout Orange County.
- > *Sister to Sister Everyone Has a Heart Foundation* provides free heart screenings and produces targeted health tips for seniors, African Americans, Hispanic and Asian Americans.

We are improving access to critical healthcare information and services. Our focus is on supporting projects that deliver critical information about health issues to people who need it.

- > Reliable health information is potentially the single most cost-effective and achievable strategy for sustainable improvement in healthcare. (*World Health Organization*)
- > Timely access to information helps significantly lower costs and shorten hospital stays. (*Journal of the American Medical Association*)
- > Health, nutrition and population programs often fail to reach those poor people who need them the most. (*World Bank report: "Reaching the Poor: What Works, What Doesn't, and Why"*)
- > Approximately 25 percent of the U.S. population lives with some level of disability, and people with disabilities are almost three times more likely to live in poverty than any other group. (*World Institute on Disability*)

Find out more about our efforts to support for healthcare and accessibility programs.

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