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JHF Announces Call for Applications for 2014 Fine Award for Teamwork Excellence in Health Care
*Focus on Elevating and Disseminating Best Practices in Infection Control
or Pain Management*

PITTSBURGH, PA—May 8, 2014. The Jewish Healthcare Foundation (JH) is now accepting applications for the 2014 Fine Award for Teamwork Excellence in Health Care, sponsored by The Fine Foundation and the Jewish Healthcare Foundation.

With the passage of the Affordable Care Act in 2010, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) established the Hospital Value-Based Purchasing program for hospitals, clinicians, and other stakeholders who share CMS' commitment to transforming the quality of care by realigning hospitals' financial incentives to do so. These include measurements on clinical process of care, clinical outcome, and patient experience of care.

Hospitals are no longer paid solely based on the quantity of service. CMS will make value-based incentive payments to acute care hospitals, based either on how well the hospitals perform on certain quality measures, or how much the hospitals' performance improves on certain quality measures from their performance during a baseline period.

CMS has estimated that approximately \$1.4 billion will be available for value-based incentives. Soon, long-term care facilities will face similar financial realignment incentives. The 2014 Fine Awards for Teamwork Excellence in Health Care will focus on two of these quality measures—**infection control** and **pain management**—in acute- and long-term care settings. Specifically, what an organization has done to elevate the level of quality care in one or both of those areas, and how has the facility disseminated those best practices beyond a single unit or department.

The award criteria and application may be found online thru this [link](#).

Organizations may submit more than one application per quality measure. The deadline is June 18, 2014.

Three awards (Gold, Silver, and Bronze, with prizes of \$25,000, \$15,000, and \$10,000 to teams; and \$10,000, \$8,000, and \$6,000 to their corresponding organizations; respectively) will be announced at an awards presentation to be held in Pittsburgh in November. All applications are reviewed by a national panel of thought leaders in pain management or infection control, and must provide credible evidence of sustainable quality improvement.

ABOUT THE FINE AWARD FOR TEAMWORK EXCELLENCE IN HEALTH CARE

The Fine Award for Teamwork Excellence in Health Care was established in 2008 by The Fine Foundation in collaboration with the Jewish Healthcare Foundation, to recognize frontline healthcare professionals who are dedicating the time and effort to perfecting patient care – ensuring the delivery of the highest quality care. Submitting organizations must be located in the Greater Pittsburgh area. All applications are reviewed by a panel of distinguished regional and national thought leaders, and three awards granted: Gold (\$25,000), Silver (\$15,000), and Bronze (\$10,000). To date, more than 200 healthcare workers from various healthcare settings have been recognized with a Fine Award.

ABOUT THE JEWISH HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION

The Jewish Healthcare Foundation (JHF) is a nonprofit, public charity established in 1990 with proceeds from the sale of Montefiore Hospital. JHF is a unique institution with a highly trained staff and two supporting organizations, the **Pittsburgh Regional Health Initiative (PRHI)** and Health Careers Futures (HCF), whose activities directly advance its mission. It has become a leading national voice in patient safety, healthcare quality improvement, and workforce issues. For additional information, visit www.jhf.org and www.prhi.org.

ABOUT THE FINE FOUNDATION

The Fine Foundation is a Pittsburgh-based family foundation established in 2007 by Milton and Sheila Fine. The foundation is interested in projects that make a difference in people's lives; are a good investment in the short and long term; and have an impact in four areas of interest – arts and culture, science and medicine, Jewish life, and the enrichment of the Pittsburgh region.

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Available for interviews: Karen Wolk Feinstein, PhD, President and CEO, Jewish Healthcare Foundation;
President and CEO, Pittsburgh Regional Health Initiative
Milton and Sheila Fine
Interviews with representatives from past winning teams
Contact Laurie Gottlieb to arrange