

February 2013

## GrantWatch Patient Engagement, Patient Safety, And Quality Of Care

### GrantWatch Blog

---

### Improving Quality Of Care

The [Jewish Healthcare Foundation](#) matched the dollars awarded by the Allegheny County (Pennsylvania) Community Infrastructure and Tourism Fund to open the QIT Center, which is dedicated to equipping the front-line health care workforce with the knowledge and skills to effectively use information technology to improve the quality of health care in the region, according to the foundation's newsletter. The QIT name comes from the center's motto: "where quality improvement meets information technology." The center opened in December 2012. In addition to serving southwestern Pennsylvania, the center also aims for national and even global reach.

Jewish Healthcare has also announced its new QIT Health Innovators Fellowship. Up to fifteen health professions graduate students will be chosen for each annual "class" of fellows, who will work in small teams to learn how to apply data analysis and information technology to pressing, real-world health care problems.

The well-known [Pittsburgh Regional Health Initiative](#), founded in 1997, is an operating arm of Jewish Healthcare. The institute aims "to dramatically improve patient safety and healthcare quality through reductions in medical errors, use of evidence-based practices, and elimination of waste," according to the foundation's website. Perfecting Patient Care, the institute's curriculum for clinicians, which is based on industrial engineering principles, seeks to show "that an unwavering focus on meeting patient needs and on achieving optimal care outcomes, along with simultaneous dedication to efficiency and zero defects, will create maximum value for the patient and for society," explains *Moving Beyond Repair: Perfecting Health Care*, a book published by the institute and the foundation in 2012.