



January 2022 | Jewish Healthcare Foundation news, events, milestones, & more

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JHF's Ambitious Vision for 2022

The Jewish Healthcare Foundation staff began the new year with an ambitious vision and a wish for a healthier, safer America. The exercise was to imagine what we could achieve in 2022 by leveraging our collective skills and assets and viable partnerships to address emerging needs and longstanding challenges. The following represent that wish list:



Patient Safety:

- [National Patient Safety Board](#) legislation will be introduced and passed in the U.S. House and Senate.
- Our region will achieve global recognition with the [Pittsburgh Center for Healthcare Safety Technology](#).

Better Care Options for Seniors and People Who are Disabled:

- Health professionals are better equipped to serve seniors. JHF will host not one, but two, of its popular Death & Dying Fellowships: one in the winter for graduate students and one later in 2022 for professionals in the field.
- A new statewide Quality Improvement Learning Network will bring best practices to all 600 nursing facilities in Pennsylvania.
- The Revisiting the Teaching Nursing Home Initiative, in partnership with national, statewide, and regional partners and funders, will demonstrate a new model for senior care and will carry that message to a nation.
- Squirrel Hill will be the home of a new state-of-the-art Senior Village. [AgeWell Pittsburgh](#) will be strengthened, expanded, and resourced.

Maternal and Child Health:

- The new Statewide WIC Advisory Group will launch, and WIC referrals/services will be embedded in the [Pennsylvania Perinatal Quality Collaborative](#) birth hospitals.
- Pennsylvania will finalize doula certification and reimbursement and the legislature will pass the PA Midwifery Modernization Bill, creating stronger and more robust perinatal care teams.

Teen Mental Health:

- Statewide policy change will guarantee reimbursement of community-based teen mental health supports, to respond to the acute access shortage of trained therapists, emergency room capacity, and in-patient options as well as challenges of financial coverage for preventive services.

HIV/AIDS:

- JHF will expand HIV testing by 50% across the region.

- A new sister city collaboration with Montreal, Canada will result in bi-lateral workshops to build capacity across HIV service providers.

Ken Kizer, Carolyn Clancy, David Mayer Reflect on Patient Safety Podcast

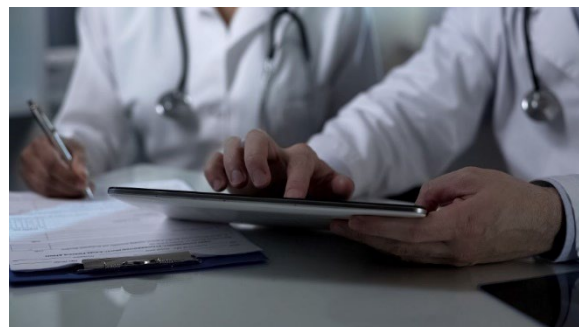
In a special [Up Next for Patient Safety](#) episode to kick off the new year, three renowned leaders in patient safety offer critical insight on where we've come from and how to move forward. Join host **Karen Wolk Feinstein** and special guest co-host **Martin Hatlie** of Project Patient Care and MedStar Institute for Quality & Safety in a compelling conversation with **Dr. Carolyn Clancy** of the Veterans Health Administration, **Dr. Kenneth Kizer** of Atlas Research, and **Dr. David Mayer** of MedStar Institute for Quality & Safety as they reflect on the origins of the patient safety movement and look toward the future of patient safety in the U.S.



Listen to the new episode and find previous episodes [here](#).

Karen Wolk Feinstein and David Classen Present National Patient Safety Board to the EHR Association

On January 12, Jewish Healthcare Foundation President and CEO Karen Wolk Feinstein, PhD, and patient safety pioneer David C. Classen, MD, MS, professor of medicine at the University of Utah School of Medicine, presented the National Patient Safety Board (NPSB) initiative to representatives from the EHR Association (EHRA). The EHRA's Patient Safety Workgroup collaborates with member companies and stakeholders to advance the safe use of electronic health records. Dr. Feinstein and Dr. Classen sought input and feedback on the NPSB initiative.



Dr. Feinstein summarized JHF and PRHI's patient safety work and the effort to establish a National Patient Safety Board (NPSB) through the NPSB Advocacy Coalition. Dr. Feinstein illustrated how the success of the NPSB to introduce autonomous safety solutions depends on the data in the electronic health records. Dr. Classen then presented on the autonomous patient safety surveillance system he has developed, which identifies and anticipates medical errors by extracting electronic health record data in real time.

JHF Seeks Proposals to Offer HIV/AIDS Services

The Jewish Healthcare Foundation (JHF) is seeking proposals from interested and qualified agencies to provide services for those living with and affected by HIV/AIDS through [two Requests for Proposals \(RFPs\)](#). Proposals should address plans to provide care, support, and housing services and to better engage high risk individuals and those lost to care. The grant period for each of the RFPs will be July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2024.

[Read more about the RFPs here.](#)



JHF Grants \$10K to Israel Healthcare Foundation

The Jewish Healthcare Foundation is pleased to grant the Israel Healthcare Foundation [\\$10,000 in support of an initiative](#) by Israel's largest state-mandated health service organization, Clalit, to train 65 experienced nurses to become nurse practitioners over the next five years, certifying them for geriatric and pain management treatment in both hospital and community settings.



Clalit's innovative program, "A New Cadre of Israeli Nurse Practitioners: First Responders for the Elderly and the Chronically Ill" has been activating partnerships in Israel to advance a model of care for this vulnerable population and engaging a team of specially trained nurse practitioners to provide high-quality, specialized care to these patients from the comfort and safety of patients' own homes.

The grant will help advance this ongoing initiative, using the funds to provide better care for the elderly and chronically ill, reduce hospital overcrowding, and alleviate the physician shortage. Through this project Clalit is also addressing Israel's health workforce crisis and providing care to Israelis in the greatest need.

Patient Safety Op-Ed Published in The Hill

Jewish Healthcare Foundation President and CEO Karen Wolk Feinstein co-authored an op-ed with Project Patient Care CEO Marty Hatlie to promote the growing movement to improve patient safety in the United States, specifically through establishing a National Patient Safety Board.



Action on patient safety will help achieve the health care system we deserve

BY KAREN WOLK FEINSTEIN AND MARTIN J. HATLIE, OPINION CONTRIBUTOR

Read more in The Hill: [Action on patient safety will help achieve the health care system we deserve](#)

Pittsburgh Business Times Publishes JHF Op-Ed on Crisis in Mental Health Workforce

Jewish Healthcare Foundation President and CEO Karen Wolk Feinstein authored an [op-ed](#) published January 14 in the Pittsburgh Business Times highlighting the crisis facing our mental health services. Under-resourced, understaffed, and inadequate to meet the demand, mental health services have been pushed to the brink during the pandemic. It is time that the business community works together with policymakers and foundations to address this crisis. Policy makers should work to provide every American with access to early intervention to ward off serious mental illness episodes. Enlightened employers have done this for their employees with Employee Assistance Programs. For everyone else without access to excellent early intervention, we desperately need more qualified therapists, more inpatient beds, more mental health emergency rooms, better insurance coverage for behavioral health. Read more in the Pittsburgh Business Times here: [Wolk Feinstein's Viewpoint: We need EAPs for our mental health](#)



HEALTH CARE

Wolk Feinstein's Viewpoint: We need EAPs for our mental health

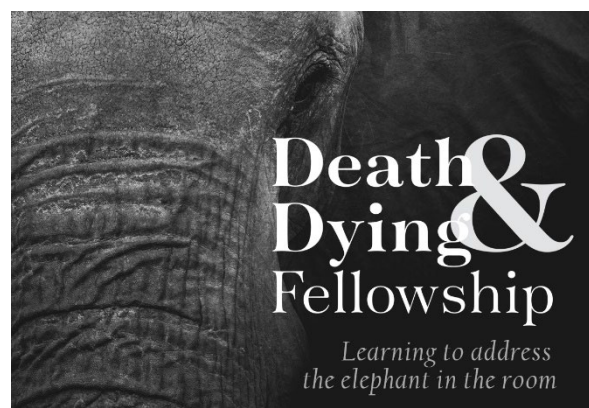
JHF and Mentoring Partnership Series on Mentoring and Mental Health Launches in February

The Jewish Healthcare Foundation and the Mentoring Partnership are teaming up to explore the role mentoring plays in youth mental health in a 4-part community discussion series: ***Where Mentoring and Youth Mental Health Meet***. In this free virtual series, guests will hear from experts on the impact mentoring relationships have on the social-emotional health and well-being of young people. Organizations will also share their important work to advance strong relationships for kids in our community and beyond. Registration for each session is required and space is limited! Learn more and register [here](#).



Death and Dying Fellowship Important as Ever in COVID Era

The Jewish Healthcare Foundation (JHF)'s 2022 Feinstein Fellowship on Death and Dying commenced with its first virtual session on January 24. Over the nine three-hour sessions, participants will learn, confront, and discuss the legal, medical, social, cultural, familial, and spiritual aspects of death and dying within a multi-disciplinary group in a low-pressure environment. This year's fellowship welcomes 33 applicants who hail from 7 universities in Pittsburgh, Chicago, Washington, DC, and Dunmore, PA, and represent 15 degree programs (from nursing and medicine programs to physical and occupational therapy, social work, ethics, and business).



During the first session, JHF President & CEO Karen Feinstein provided an overview of the Foundation and its operating arms as well as the priority initiatives of patient safety, workforce development, and new models for senior residential living. She also provided background on JHF's interest in improving end-of-life care and the increased importance of having end-of-life conversations as a consequence of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Robert Arnold, chief of the section of palliative care and medical ethics at the University of Pittsburgh, presented on the current state of end-of-life care, highlighting the tension between medicine's focus on extending life and the need to have ongoing conversations about patients' goals and wishes. JHF COO and Chief Program Officer Nancy Zions and Judy Black, MD, medical advisor to JHF, provided an overview of JHF's Closure Model for end-of-life education. They also provided an overview of JHF's Aging Agenda, which encompasses initiatives on education and outreach in long-term care settings, supporting the nursing home workforce, senior engagement strategies, and dementia-

friendly communities. Fellows had the opportunity to share their backgrounds, individual goals, and aspirations for the nine-week fellowship.

Over the course of the series, the core faculty will be supplemented by many healthcare and community leaders from a range of health and living sites who will share their experiences and skills with the fellows. The final session provides an opportunity for the Fellows to practice conversations around end-of-life based on the skills they have gained.

PA DHS Awards Grant for Revisiting the Teaching Nursing Home Initiative

The PA Department of Human Services has confirmed a \$125,000 grant to the Jewish Healthcare Foundation in support of the Revisiting the Teaching Nursing Home Initiative (RTNH).

Skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) have long been plagued with quality issues, including high rates of falls, medication errors, infections, and hospital readmissions. In 2020, COVID-19 swept through long term care in Pennsylvania and across the country to devastating effect, disproportionately affecting members of marginalized groups among the residents and workforce. Even before the pandemic there was a realization that, as the demand for and acuity of skilled nursing residents was growing across the Commonwealth, it would be imperative to assure that SNFs improve their capacity to provide the level of care required to assure safe, quality, and equitable care of their residents and staff. This improved capacity would require a stabilization of workforce, an investment in furthering the clinical and leadership skills, consistent access to resources and supplies, and the identification of organizational, cultural, and regulatory barriers that impede nurse autonomy and leadership within SNFs.



The Commonwealth now joins The John A. Hartford Foundation, the Henry L. Hillman Foundation, the Independence Foundation, and the Jewish Healthcare Foundation in advancing a pilot project to address the quality of care and the workforce pipeline in nursing facilities through partnerships between Schools of Nursing and nursing homes in three regions of the state. RTNH promotes evidence-based practice and research at the skilled nursing facility level for nursing professionals to improve outcomes for residents and to improve the quality of the jobs in that setting. The effort will document the opportunities, challenges and strategies to broadly disseminating the RTNH model following the pilot project. JHF serves as the project lead, providing project coordination to a national and statewide project advisory group and a statewide working group (including all project partners); and offering ongoing support for regional project teams.

JHF Leading End-of-Life Course at CMU's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

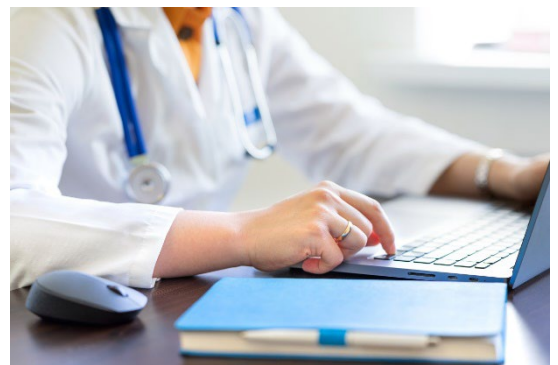
Three members of the Jewish Healthcare Foundation (JHF) team are leading a class at Carnegie Mellon University's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute this winter. "Closure: Discussing the Last Chapter" is being taught by Judith Black, MD, a medical adviser to JHF, Nancy Zionts, MBA, JHF COO/Chief Program Officer, and Lisa George, MPH, CHES, senior communications and program specialist at JHF. The course has been offered via Carnegie Mellon's Osher program for several years and is adapted from the Closure curriculum developed by JHF.

Dr. Black and Ms. George will be discussing advance care planning and will provide resources to help people have the often-challenging conversations with their family members about what they would want at the end of life. Sessions focus on the history of end-of-life care, advance directives, POLST (Physician's Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment), and hospice and palliative care. The five weekly sessions are being offered virtually via Zoom from January 13 to February 10.



JHF Presents Long-Term Care Webinar with PA Department of Human Services

On January 19, the Jewish Healthcare Foundation (JHF) partnered with the Pennsylvania Office of Long Term Living (OLTL) to provide a webinar on COVID-19 testing requirements, vaccines, and boosters to hundreds of long-term care facilities statewide. This webinar was held in response to the increased need for COVID-19 testing, which many personal care and assisted living communities are seeking to provide to residents on-site, requiring them to obtain a Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) Waiver to meet Pennsylvania regulations. Debra Tyler, BS, MT(ASCP), MPH, division director at the Pennsylvania Bureau of Laboratories, presented information on how long-term care facilities can obtain a CLIA Waiver. The webinar highlighted a best practice case study for obtaining a CLIA Waiver presented by Charity Stackhouse, managing partner at Halcyon Senior Living.



The second portion of the webinar stressed the effectiveness of vaccines and boosters for long-term care residents and workers. Megan Barbour, MPH, senior advisor to the Pennsylvania Secretary of Health, shared resources designed by the Pennsylvania Department of Health tailored for use in the long-term care setting. Additional featured speakers included Lawrence Appel, MD, SFHM, medical director of the OLTL, Cara Bicking Kinsey, PhD, MPH, RNC, epidemiologist at the Pennsylvania Department of Health, and Jeanne Parisi, director of the Bureau of Human Services of Licensing at the OLTL. Nancy Zionts, MBA, JHF COO and chief program officer moderated. This webinar builds on months of collaboration between JHF and the OLTL to provide updated guidance and resources to long-term care facilities as part of JHF's prior involvement in the Regional Congregate Care Assistance Teams (RCAT) program.

PA Perinatal Quality Collaborative Co-Hosts Statewide Maternal Health Awareness Day Event

On January 21, the Pennsylvania Section of The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (PA ACOG) and the [Pennsylvania Perinatal Quality Collaborative](#) (PA PQC) collaborated to hold a Maternal Health Awareness Day event. Pennsylvania Department of Health Physician General Dr. Denise Johnson provided a keynote speech to recognize the day and progress across Pennsylvania to improve maternal health outcomes.



As an action arm of the PA Maternal Mortality Review Committee, the [PA PQC](#) is expanding a series of initiatives in 2022 with a focus on maternal substance use, substance-exposed newborns, maternal depression, contraceptive care, and severe hypertension. Each initiative incorporates health equity approaches and measures into its standard work to reduce the racial/ethnic disparities across these initiatives. The PA PQC supports 60 birth hospitals in adopting best practices and tracking outcomes towards these common aims. “Now is the time to take action and get involved. Birth hospitals, with their outpatient and community partners, have the opportunity to join the PA PQC and participate in these initiatives in 2022,” notes Robert Ferguson, MPH, Chief Policy Officer of the Jewish Healthcare Foundation, which administers the PA PQC.

Watch a recording of the event [here](#).

Welcoming New Staff Member Emily Magoc

Emily Magoc, RN-BSN, MPH joined the Jewish Healthcare Foundation in January as a quality improvement facilitator for the Pennsylvania Perinatal Quality Collaborative (PA PQC). She earned her MPH at the University of Michigan School of Public Health and her BSN at Duquesne University. Emily previously worked as an RN coordinator for the Squirrel Hill Health Center’s (SHHC) mobile COVID-19 vaccination site, as a clinical design specialist at Gateway Health Plan with a focus on women’s health, and as a nurse at Children’s Community Pediatrics and SHHC, among other roles. Emily has a background in public health research and in engaging medically underserved and marginalized communities, and she is most interested in and passionate about working towards health equity and the fight for reproductive justice. As a quality improvement facilitator, she coaches PA PQC hospitals on their quality improvement initiatives, engaging the participating PA



Emily Magoc

PQC health plans in their roles, and supporting the PA PQC's data collection and visualization work as well.

Leah Binder Champions Patient Safety on the National Stage

Patient safety expert Leah Binder, MA, MGA, is president and CEO of The Leapfrog Group, an employer-driven national nonprofit based in Washington, D.C. With Binder at the helm, the award-winning organization collects data from hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers on the quality of care. Leapfrog also grades hospitals on how safe they are, a bold initiative experts estimate resulted in saving over 40,000 lives a year since 2017. Binder is consistently cited among the most influential people and top women in health care and in patient safety. As a partner, board member, and friend of the Jewish Healthcare Foundation (JHF), she has aided the push for a National Patient Safety Board (NPSB) to reach new heights with a bright outlook for 2022.



Leah Binder

Binder has been a forerunner in galvanizing hospitals and health systems to improve their safety and quality of care, with years of experience in nonprofit administration. Her introduction to health care came through a position with the National League for Nursing as special assistant to the CEO, which ignited her passion for working in health care. This career path allowed Binder to honor her late father, who passed away around the time of her college graduation. "Making sure patients are treated with respect and kindness is really important to me, and that has resonated through my career in health care. It's why I wake up every day, determined to make it better," Binder says.

After a stint as a senior policy advisor for health services in the New York City Mayor's office, Binder went on to work for a rural hospital network. At the Franklin Community Health Network, which serves a small rural community in Farmington, Maine, Binder led a public health initiative and worked in communications.

Binder was first introduced to Leapfrog while working at Franklin. The state of Maine began using new standards for safety from Leapfrog for a new program, in which the state would waive their employees' copays for services from hospitals that met Leapfrog's standards. The Franklin community was unfamiliar with Leapfrog, and there was initial resistance when their hospital did not make the cut in the state's quality standards report. State employees in the community began to speak out about their copays when receiving services from Franklin, which spurred Franklin physicians to act. Leapfrog's high-caliber ratings sparked the Franklin staff's competitive nature and drove them to overhaul their patient safety, to the benefit of their patients, community, and reputation.

"It had this enormous, galvanizing impact on our operations, more than anything else ever had. Talking about patient safety or thinking we were good at it hadn't worked. This Leapfrog incentive program worked, for two reasons: because it was embarrassing, and secondly, because we need

to be compared against our peers in order to truly understand how we were doing. We needed that level of transparency,” Binder says.

When it came time to advance in the next step in her career, Binder was ready for the challenge and spotlight of becoming Leapfrog’s CEO, finally reaching the position she was “born to be in.” Now, Binder continues to advocate for patient safety change in hospitals and other healthcare settings. As they did for Franklin, Leapfrog’s local, state, and national comparisons present a healthy challenge to many other hospitals.

Beyond her work with Leapfrog, Binder has partnered with JHF in the mission to advance healthcare innovation, advocacy, collaboration, and education in the interest of better population health. “I was very excited to join the JHF Board,” Binder said, especially because of the opportunity to join the NPSB effort, and because of JHF President and CEO Karen Wolk Feinstein’s leadership. “She has really led a charge to address patient safety...She just has this really beautiful vision of how a community can come together around improving the health of its people,” Binder said.

Binder notes that the NPSB Advocacy Coalition has gained traction over the past year, unlike previous attempts to revolutionize patient safety in the United States. According to Binder, the NPSB will place patient safety at the center of a national healthcare agenda. “For too long we have sidelined [patient safety], or just scattered aspects of patient safety across a whole variety of agencies and efforts, and never as the most important priority,” she says.

To recharge from her high-powered work, Binder spends time relaxing with her family, friends, and pets. She expresses excitement about continuing advocacy with JHF and the NPSB, and to be a part of finally advancing the patient safety movement in Pittsburgh and across the U.S.

Western Pennsylvania Experts Advocating in Support of Doulas

“We want more certified doulas. They are important health care workers,” said JHF Chief Policy Officer Robert Ferguson, MPH, in a [Jan. 28 TribLive article](#) on efforts among birthing care stakeholders to support doulas across Pennsylvania. Read more in the TribLive [here](#).



Western Pennsylvania experts advocating in support of doulas

Register for Dementia Friendly: Bringing a Community Together Webinar

Join Dementia Friends Pennsylvania for an interactive webinar about Dementia Friendly Community initiatives! In this virtual session, you will learn about:

- What makes a community dementia friendly
- Examples of Dementia Friendly Communities on a global, national, and local scale
- Actionable steps to create a dementia friendly community initiative in your community



The webinar will be held February 17 at 10am. Registration is free and open to the public. Learn more and register [here](#).

Now Hiring: Project Manager, PA PQC and Pittsburgh Safer Childbirth City

The Jewish Healthcare Foundation is hiring a Project Manager for two programs: the [Pennsylvania Perinatal Quality Collaborative \(PA PQC\)](#) and *Pittsburgh: A Safer Childbirth City*. The Project Manager will maintain project plans, coordinate the project teams and activities, work with the projects' grantees and contractors, develop reports for funders, interface with JHF's communications teams, and support the creation of project materials. Read more and learn how to apply [here](#).

