

Trust for America's Health Receives \$7.6 Million Grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to Advance the Quality and Impact of the Public Health System

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WASHINGTON, September 24, 2007 – Trust for America's Health (TFAH) today announced it has received a three-year, \$7.6 million grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) to continue its efforts to ensure Americans will have a high quality, accountable and adequately funded 21st century public health system that serves all Americans and helps them lead healthier lives.

“This generous support will enable us to analyze the best research and build consensus among the most seasoned experts about how to achieve a healthier America,” said Governor Lowell Weicker, President of the Board of TFAH and former Governor and three-term U.S. Senator from Connecticut.

The grant will fund the launch of “A Healthier America” project to help create a vision and agenda for protecting the health of families and communities all around the nation.

“The Healthier America project will help expand how the nation views public health. Preventing health problems is not solely a government responsibility. It will take government, businesses, public health, healthcare and individuals in every community working together to make the country a healthier place to live, work and play,” said Jeff Levi, PhD, Executive Director of TFAH.

“We are proud to stand with TFAH and other partners in supporting the Healthier America project. Together, we hope to achieve a more effective, modern and accountable public health system with the resources needed to improve health and save lives,” said Risa Lavizzo-Mourey, MD, MBA, president and CEO of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Over the next three years and against the backdrop of national elections and a new Administration, TFAH will work with a broad coalition of partners to advance a vision and establish a blueprint for how to modernize the public health system.

The grant will also help support TFAH to continue ongoing efforts toward improving U.S. health and preparedness by communicating and educating policymakers and the public, promoting the benefits of a modern public health system, developing reports and studies on the most important issues facing Americans' health, and improving the quality and content of health information available online, especially with respect to disease prevention.

Trust for America's Health is a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to saving lives by protecting the health of every community and working to make disease prevention a national priority.

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation focuses on the pressing health and health care issues facing our country. As the nation's largest philanthropy devoted exclusively to improving the health and health care of all Americans, the Foundation works with a diverse group of organizations and individuals to identify solutions and achieve a comprehensive, meaningful and timely change. For more than 35 years the Foundation has brought experience, commitment and a rigorous, balanced approach to the problems that affect the health and health care of those it serves. Helping Americans lead healthier lives and get the care they need – the Foundation expects to make a difference in our lifetime. For more information, visit www.rwjf.org.

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