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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**Alliance Healthcare Foundation Announces \$1 Million Grant for to Benefit Low-Income San Diegans**

*The Innovation Initiative grants competition will invest in a single entrepreneurial idea to transform healthcare for the underserved of the San Diego region.*

San Diego, CA—April 19, 2010—Alliance Healthcare Foundation (AHF) has announced plans for a special grants competition this summer, aimed at transforming access to care for the region's underserved. The Innovation Initiative will grant up to \$1 million over as many as three years to a single entrepreneurial idea to improve the healthcare delivery system for the poor and working poor. The competition is open to applicants from all over the world, though proposals must benefit communities in the greater San Diego region.

Through the Innovation Initiative, AHF will connect local and global entrepreneurs, technology companies and other socially conscious organizations with community agencies. Here, technology and innovation will be paired with infrastructure and access to implement groundbreaking programs. The San Diego region will be the pioneering site of an original program that can be replicated across many underserved communities.

To be competitive for the Innovation Initiative grant, an applicant must meet several criteria. Their proposal must demonstrate outstanding and new levels of collaboration with diverse partners. They must exhibit an innovative orientation to problem solving and must propose a program that has not been done before. The proposal should describe a plan to change the healthcare delivery system for the underserved.

On May 3, AHF will host the *Innovation in Healthcare San Diego Conference* at the San Diego Mission Valley Marriott. Distinguished keynote speakers and group facilitators will direct San Diego's leaders in healthcare, non-profit and the entrepreneurial sectors in discussion about solving the problems of delivering healthcare services to San Diego's poor and vulnerable populations. Like the Innovation

Initiative itself, the conference aims to dissolve silos in the healthcare sector and encourage participants to think differently about possibilities for delivering care in the future. The *Innovation in Healthcare San Diego Conference* will include discussion of the philosophy behind the Innovation Initiative.

Letters of Intent for funding consideration in the Innovation Initiative are due at [www.alliancehf.org](http://www.alliancehf.org) June 28, 2010. Those who are requested to submit full proposals will be notified in July. The winning applicant will be notified in October of 2010.

### **About Alliance Healthcare Foundation**

Alliance Healthcare Foundation (AHF) is the greater San Diego region's community partner for improving access to healthcare for the region's poor, working poor and vulnerable populations. Since 1989, AHF has invested more than \$45 million in grants into the San Diego community.

Committed to the principle that everyone should be able to access appropriate, quality, and timely care, AHF works closely with nonprofit, government, and community agencies to further this goal. They accomplish this work through advocacy, education, and collaborative grantmaking.