

Community Leaders Advancing Value-Driven Health Care...

The work being done by local collaborative organizations is vital in the development of a Value-Driven Health Care system, and Secretary Leavitt is working on ways to support their efforts and expand their numbers. To this end, HHS has begun recognizing local groups as Community Leaders, including health care providers, health care consumers and civic organizations. These groups each have a proven record of success in bringing a wide range of organizations together to advance the four cornerstones of Value-Driven Health Care.



Secretary Leavitt visited Missouri in March, where he met with 42 employers and recognized the St. Louis Area Business Health Coalition as a Community Leader.

Organizations interested in being recognized as [Community Leaders](#) should visit the [Value-Driven Health Care](#) Web site and review the [Community Leader Certification Statement](#).

...And Moving Toward Chartered Value Exchanges

To date, 47 Community Leaders for Value-Driven Health Care have been recognized. As HHS is working to create Chartered Value Exchanges (CVE) around the country, Community Leaders will soon be able to apply for this status. HHS expects to begin accepting CVE applications in September 2007.

Once designated, Chartered Value Exchanges will participate in a Learning Network and be eligible to request aggregated, Medicare-inclusive physician-level data.

The comment period is underway on a *Federal Register* notice that outlines Chartered Value Exchange (CVE) process. Comments will be accepted through July 9, 2007. [Read more...](#)

Better Quality Information Projects

Six existing regional collaboratives were selected last year to participate in Medicare's "Better Quality Information to Improve Care for Medicare Beneficiaries," or BQI, project. These are now serving as demonstration sites and pooling private data with Medicare claims data to produce more accurate, comprehensive quality measures at the provider level. Ultimately, these efforts will provide physicians with performance information that will help them improve the quality of care they deliver to Medicare beneficiaries. Their work will also provide Medicare beneficiaries with provider performance information, enabling beneficiaries to make more informed choices. The BQI project is funded by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. [Read more...](#)

Tell Us Your Story!

Has applying one or more of the four cornerstones made a difference in the quality or value of health care in your community? E-mail your story to valuedriven@hhs.gov for possible publication online or in a future issue of *The Cornerstone*.

Arizona Gov. Janet Napolitano:



"The Value-Driven Health Care cornerstones include important principles that can help ensure that

Arizona remains a leader in building systems that place a high priority on efficient and effective patient care.

"An example of Arizona's current leadership in driving smart change in the health care system is the great progress we have made in our commitment to electronic health records and health information exchange interoperability."

Read more about [What People are Saying...](#)

Isn't It Time? Declare Your Support.

[Sign up online](#) today. Also, more information about how to implement value-driven health care is available in [The Partnership for Value-Driven Health Care's Purchaser Guide](#).



"Every American should have access to a full range of information about the quality and cost of their health care options."

Secretary Michael O. Leavitt