



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **HealthComp Foundation Awards Three-Year Grant for Collaborative Community Health Assessment**

Cleveland, Ohio – The Board of Directors of the HealthComp Foundation recently approved a grant of \$737,739, over three years, to fiscal agent Cuyahoga County Board of Health to create and sustain a collaborative community health assessment process for a nine-county Northeast Ohio region.

The goal of the project is to create and sustain aligned approaches for hospitals and health departments to conduct and disseminate community health needs assessments that will lead to more effective and efficient health improvement planning and better health outcomes for all residents. The project involves both (1) primary data collection to understand the needs of community members, especially the most vulnerable, and gaps in opportunity and resources, and (2) the establishment of a data infrastructure to make previously inaccessible health data readily available to all.

“The aligned assessment will highlight community health priorities and ensure that the health improvement plans developed by hospitals and public health departments address the most pressing needs,” said HealthComp Foundation Board Chair Heidi Gullett, M.D. “This effort represents a marked departure from the past in which hospitals and public health departments conducted their own community health assessments independently. By working together, they will be able to accelerate a healthier, more competitive Northeast Ohio and achieve more equitable health outcomes for all.”

The following organizations joined the HealthComp Foundation in committing financial support in 2019 for this collaborative effort: Cleveland Department of Public Health, Cuyahoga County Board of Health, The MetroHealth System, St. Vincent Charity Medical Center, Southwest General Health Center and University Hospitals.

“We are thrilled that so many partners in the community came together in support of this important work,” said Gullett. “By working in concert, we will be able to better address our community’s most critical health issues. We are confident that the set of partners collaborating on this effort will grow in future years as the benefits of aligned health improvement planning and implementation become clear.”

**About the HealthComp Foundation:** The HealthComp Foundation was established in 2016 through funding from a prior business venture of The Center for Health Affairs’ for-profit affiliate, HealthComp, Inc. The Foundation’s mission is to accelerate a healthy community through high-quality healthcare services, community partnerships and investment. Its vision is to foster a future norm where healthcare collaboration promotes health equity in the community. More information about the foundation and how to apply can be found at: [www.healthcompfoundation.org](http://www.healthcompfoundation.org).

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