



grant results



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Each year the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation produces more than 200 reports on grant results to share findings and results and to build on the knowledge of achievements, difficulties and lessons learned from our past grantmaking.

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) believes in supporting programs that have measurable impact on the health of Americans and the quality of care they receive. For more than 30 years, we've worked with dedicated, expert partners who strive for meaningful and timely change. While progress may be slow, the steps taken can be invaluable to those who share our goal of helping Americans lead healthier lives.

We are passionate about our responsibility to share information and foster understanding of the impact of our past grantmaking—what works, what doesn't and why.

Since 1996 we've produced more than 80 Grant Results on national programs, close to 2,400 describing individual projects, more than 85 Profiles of scholars and leaders whose essential work we have supported and 20 Topic Summaries based on Grant Results.

Grant Results describe RWJF's grantmaking strategy for those working in the field or interested in undertaking similar efforts. They explain the problem addressed; the strategy used to facilitate change; the results or findings from the work; lessons for the field; any post-grant activities—by the grantee or RWJF—and they include a bibliography of material produced during the grant.

“Even after working with the Foundation for 11 years it's hard to stay on top of what they're doing, let alone what they're learning. Grant Results are enormously useful because they capture this information in succinct, well-written and easy-to-understand documents. The people involved in the projects are surprisingly candid about their work and the evaluation of their projects.”

Cathy Dunham
Former National Program Director
Community Health Leaders Program
Third Sector New England



OUR PURPOSE

Grant Results serve four purposes:

- To create a historical record of research, applied interventions and lessons learned for program staff, grantees and partners.
- To document and describe the findings and lessons of our grantees' work and encourage reflection on them.
- To communicate the work of the Foundation openly to the public.
- To assemble a comprehensive body of work serving many purposes including education, guidance, research, evaluation and analysis.

HOW THE REPORTS ARE PRODUCED

The Grant Results Reporting Unit (GRRU), a joint effort of the Foundation's Communications and Research & Evaluation Departments, produces these reports.

Two RWJF officers—one an experienced evaluator and the other an experienced journalist—lead the Grant Results Reporting Unit. Once a project or program has completed its work, the GRRU assigns it to a writer who reviews reports and publications from the initiative. The writer also interviews the project/program director and, if appropriate, the Foundation's program officer, to glean lessons from the work and to clarify and illuminate important aspects of what was accomplished. An editor/reviewer then reads the entire file of materials against the report to be certain that the writer has not misconstrued or incorrectly described the work, and edits the report accordingly. GRRU ensures clarity and accuracy through further review by one of the two GRRU officers, the RWJF program officer and then the program/project director. The report then is copy-edited and posted to our Web site.

A FOCUS ON LEARNING

It's our responsibility as America's largest philanthropy devoted to improving health and health care to share the results and findings of our grant-supported work and the lessons we've learned—about both what works and what doesn't—to foster improved work in the field. Researchers, policy-makers, journalists, educators or future grantees will find that the Grant Results illuminate relevance and understanding of a problem and the work that's been done by the partners who share our vision.

“Foundations need to be held accountable for the grants they make and grantees must answer for what they produce with Foundation funds. Grant Results are an important tool because they provide evidence of project results and summarize lessons learned from Foundation-supported projects. This knowledge then makes its way into the communities of scholars, practitioners and policy-makers who work in the fields of health, health care and health policy.”

Alan B. Cohen, Sc.D.
National Program Director
RWJ Scholars in Health Policy Research
Boston University Health Policy Institute

“The Grant Results are fabulous. I hand them out everywhere I go. It's a great source for our reference materials.”

Barbara Barlow, M.D.
National Program Director
Injury Free Coalition for Kids