

Beckwith Institute Holds Inaugural Grant Symposium

Innovative Programs Showcased at Special Event

A grant symposium hosted by The Beckwith Institute on June 23 showcased the success of the innovative projects that have improved patient care throughout UPMC. More than 70 people attended the inaugural event held at the Center for Connected Medicine on the 60th floor of the U.S. Steel Building.

The event was attended by The Beckwith Institute board members, former and current grant recipients, and key administrators from UPMC and the University of Pittsburgh, and featured a poster session, videos, and presentations on grant projects.

Patrick Gallagher, PhD, Chancellor and Chief Executive Officer of the University of Pittsburgh, opened the program with remarks on the region's potential to grow as a center of innovation in health care technology.

Keynote speaker Sorrel King, President and Co-Founder of the Josie King Foundation, congratulated The Beckwith Institute grantees for their work in supporting projects aimed at improving the patient and family experience. "It's important to listen and be open to these new ideas. Their work can be life changing," she said.

Mrs. King pointed to UPMC's pioneering Condition Help program as a prime example. Condition Help provides a safety hotline patients and families may call when there is a change in a patient's condition and they are unable to get the attention of a health care provider. The program is dedicated to the memory of her daughter, Josie King, who died at a major East Coast hospital as a result of a series of hospital errors and poor communications.

Highlighting the Institute's three types of grant programs were presentations representing [Frontline Innovations](#), [Clinical Transformations](#), and [Bench at Bedside](#).

Supported by UPMC Chairman G. Nicholas Beckwith and his wife, Dorothy, with matching funds from UPMC, The Beckwith Institute annually provides grants to improve clinical outcomes by empowering both clinicians and patients to explore innovative ways of transforming health care. The Grant Symposium was held to increase awareness of the grant program.

NOTE: Applications for [Frontline Innovation grants](#) can be submitted starting July 20.