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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Health Empowerment Network of Maryland, Inc. Brings Improved Healthcare to Seat Pleasant Residents:

Seat Pleasant, MD – Mayor Eugene W. Grant in his continuing efforts to address poor health outcomes and disparities convened a meeting at Prince Georges Hospital Center last week through the Health Empowerment Network of Maryland, Inc. to move forward on plans to request grant funding from the federal government. In 2010 President Barak Obama and Congress passed the [Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act](#), consistent with Section 3026 of this act, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid launched a new funding mechanism and signed into law the Community Based Care Transitions Program (CCTP) making it possible for community based organizations to provide better care to their residents. CCTP's goals are; to reduce hospital readmissions, test sustainable funding streams for care transition services, maintain or improve quality of care, and document measureable savings to the Medicare program. The demonstration will be conducted under the authority of section 3026 of the Affordable Care Act of 2010. These funds would primarily provide better healthcare to seniors in the area currently enrolled in the Medicare program and give them access to better healthcare options closer to home.

The Health Empowerment Network of Maryland, Inc. (HENM) is a Community Based Organization made up of partners such as the Prince Georges County Health Department, University of Maryland Prevention Resource Center, Prince Georges County Area Agency on Aging, Department of Mental Health and Hygiene, Integrity Health Partners and the City of Seat Pleasant, among others. "We are dedicated to bringing quality healthcare to seniors who for too long have been some of Prince Georges Counties most vulnerable and overlooked populations," said Mayor Eugene W. Grant. During this meeting the group worked to set parameters on timelines, focus groups, and other essential data which will be written in a grant proposal and submitted to the federal government. So far, four area hospitals have joined this coalition effort, they include Prince Georges Hospital Center, Laurel Regional Hospital, Doctors Community Hospital and Fort Washington Medical Center.

Mayor Eugene W. Grant continued, "We expect in the coming months to bring on at least another three hospital partners and grow this effort so that our City of Excellence can be a shining example of what can be accomplished when you work together across the board for the good of the people you serve."

John O'Brien, President of Prince Georges Hospital Center hosted this meeting and in his opening remarks stated, "Prince George's Hospital Center began one year ago to plan with the City of Seat Pleasant and the University of Maryland's Prevention Research Center to organize a coordinated program that would improve health care for the city residents with chronic illnesses. Since then, the vision of

Mayor Eugene W. Grant has led us to expand this concept to include other hospitals and health agencies throughout the region in a truly innovative system that holds great promise for improving health services for most of Prince George's County and the eastern District of Columbia.” Mr. O’Brien added, “we are excited about the possibility of combining state of the art information technology, new care organization methods and broad community collaboration to attract a federal grant that would allow us to do what few other communities have been able to accomplish: actually improve the lives of people with chronic illnesses and reduce the need for them to seek hospital care. Seat Pleasant has been an outstanding lead community for this groundbreaking effort.”

During this meeting, many of HENM’s members had an opportunity to set goals and timelines so that vital information could be gathered from area hospitals and the grant writing process headed up by [Integrity Health Partners](#) could begin. "Integrity Health Partners shares a common vision for health care innovation with the Health Empowerment Network of Maryland and is a committed partner, both financially and philosophically to collaboratively improve individual patient medical outcomes. Our world class professional team coupled with proven cutting edge technology will facilitate in conjunction with the local medical community extraordinary benefits to those lives we touch, said Charles Snyder, President & CEO of Integrity Health Partners.

Integrity Health International, based out of Zurich, Switzerland, has signed on to provide Social Impact Funding to the Community Based Organization HENM. Dr. Frederick Shepperd, CEO of Integrity Health International was at this meeting to demonstrate the extraordinary support of this global company whose funds will go towards protecting the health, safety, and well being of the citizens located in the health communities served by HENM. At this meeting Dr. Shepperd commented “On Behalf of Integrity Health International AG, I am pleased to support the efforts of our US subsidiary and its cooperation with the Health Empowerment Network of Maryland, Inc. Individuals from around the world are looking at Prince Georges County today and looking to see how the cooperation develops with IHP, Inc. in creating the next Generation in Healthcare Delivery.”

Seat Pleasant: “A City of Excellence” is one of Maryland’s 157 municipalities with a population of 5,000 residents, 100 businesses, 13 houses of faith, and 20 non-profit organizations. The Seat Pleasant government has a mayor, seven member city council and 35 government employees operating a \$3.2 million dollar budget.

Health Empowerment Network of Maryland, Inc: To advance and apply technical and scientific knowledge in healthcare quality improvement and system redesign, clinical process changes, and health information technology to empower individuals and communities to improve healthcare delivery and personal and community health in the state of Maryland.

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