



health sciences & services authority of spokane county

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**HSSA Announces \$235,000 “Access to Health Care”
Annual Grant Competition**

SPOKANE, WA – The **Health Sciences & Services Authority (HSSA)** of Spokane County announced that it has opened a new grant competition to increase access to health care. The **HSSA RFP #9-2013 – Access to Health Care** grant will award \$235,000 for grants that increase health care access for the under- and uninsured in Spokane County.

“HSSA’s mission includes increasing access to health care delivery services, as well as to improve the capacity of the Spokane region to contribute to advances in health sciences research,” said Nancy L. Isserlis, HSSA Board Chair and Spokane City Attorney.

Here are key dates related to HSSA RFP #9-2013 “Access to Care” Grant applicant proposals for funding:

RFP posted date:	August 15, 2013
Letter of intent due by 12 noon:	August 31, 2013
Proposal due by 4 pm:	September 30, 2013
Awards announcement:	November 1, 2013 (or sooner)

Applicants should have a letter of intent (LOI) in to the HSSA electronically by 12 noon on August 31st at grantadmin@hssaspokane.org. HSSA will acknowledge receipt and will coordinate directly with the applicants. A full proposal would be due to the HSSA by 4 pm on September 30, 2013.

HSSA’s ninth grant competition helps to meet one of its strategic goals to increase access to health services in Spokane County, and represents a fund of about 15 percent of annual revenues designated for this purpose.

“To date we have awarded \$916,277 in this category and increased access to health care for over 17,000 patients in Spokane County who otherwise would not have been treated,” Isserlis

said. In addition, she said, over \$14 million in donated medical services and nearly \$4 million in free pharmaceuticals had been contributed and delivered to people.

HSSA's other strategic initiative is to increase local **health sciences research** and the infrastructure that supports it, and designates 75 percent of its revenues for that purpose. In the latter case, HSSA announced earlier this year that its research grants in all three categories were **open year-round** for proposals at any time. The three research-related categories funded by HSSA are:

HSSA RFP #5 – Investments in human capital to accelerate health sciences research growth in Spokane County. Researchers are required to transfer up to \$1.5 million in current research funding and spend 75% of their time devoted to research, the balance of time to academic teaching and administrative duties.

HSSA RFP #6 – Investments in innovative research to expedite commercialization and spur job growth. HSSA will match up to \$500,000 for research with SBIR/STTR or other organizations "proof of concept" grants when the research and/or commercialization is conducted in Spokane County.

HSSA RFP #7 – Investments in innovative research that advances Spokane as a national leader in health delivery research. HSSA will match up to \$100,000 annually for up to three years for individual research initiatives.

HSSA has invested \$3.1 million to date in health science research and infrastructure that supports approximately \$10.6 million in extramural grant funding to Spokane, an additional \$4 million annual payroll, and 16 direct jobs and 235 WSU-forecasted research-related jobs by 2017.

More information about all HSSA grants may be found at www.hssaspokane.org.

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About HSSA:

The **Health Sciences & Services Authority (HSSA) of Spokane County** was established in 2007 by the Washington legislature, authorized county-wide by Spokane County in 2008 and began operating in 2009. Its mission is to invest in health sciences research to promote economic development, advance new therapies and procedures to combat disease and to promote public health. HSSA invests funds to create and support a nationally competitive health sciences research cluster in Spokane County, and works to catalyze higher education research and the health sciences industry that will lead to higher wage jobs, long-term sustainability and economic diversification. For more information, visit our website at www.hssaspokane.org or call 509.385.2113.

About Our Board:

Nancy Isserlis, City Attorney, City of Spokane, and HSSA Board Chair; Earl F. "Marty" Martin, Ph.D., Executive Vice President, Gonzaga University and HSSA Board Vice Chair; Michael Wilson, Chief Executive, Providence Health Care and Grants Committee Chair; Jason Thackston, Vice President of Energy Delivery, Avista Corp. and Finance Committee Chair; Dr. Jeff Collins, Medical Director, Providence Health Care; Kevin Oldenburg, Ph.D., President, Matrical Bioscience; David J. Vachon, Ph.D., CEO/Founder, Iasis Molecular Sciences, and Dr. Francisco Velázquez, President & CEO, PAML and PAML Ventures.