

Environmental Toxicants Before Birth: Moving from Risk Perception to Risk Reduction” published in *Public Health Reports*. To download the brief, visit [http://www.jhsph.edu/wchpc/publications/Environ\\_Tox\\_MCH.pdf](http://www.jhsph.edu/wchpc/publications/Environ_Tox_MCH.pdf).

- RCHN Community Health Foundation** (New York) announced the release of *Estimating the Economic Gains for States as a Result of Medicaid Coverage Expansions for Adults*. The policy brief presents the results of a study by researchers at The George Washington University School of Public Health and Health Services, which found that the Medicaid expansions currently under consideration in Congress not only will improve the health and well-being of previously uninsured individuals and families, but will also generate significant economic returns in new business activities, jobs, salaries, and wages. The report concludes that the rate of return is between two and six dollars for every dollar invested. In addition, the study revealed other benefits to Medicaid eligibility expansions, including insuring an additional 10 million nonelderly Americans by 2014 and lowering health care costs to improve access to health care for treatment and management of chronic health conditions. Notably, the report estimates that a \$10 million state investment in Medicaid would generate, on a nationwide average, \$29.1 million in business activity, 247 jobs, and \$10.3 million in salary and wages. Contact: Feygele Jacobs, 212.246.1122, ext. 712.

**U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal Child Health Bureau**

(Rockville, MD) has published *Women's Health USA 2009*, which highlights selected emerging issues and trends in women's health. The resource uses a variety of data sources and includes information on population characteristics, health status, and health services utilization. This year's edition has added several topics, such as women veterans, bleeding disorders, hearing problems, and severe headaches and migraines. Other new features include

a section with state-specific data on leading causes of death, overweight and obesity, and smoking among women, as well as a special supplement on women's health along the U.S.-Mexico border. The data book is intended to be a concise reference for policymakers and program managers at the federal, state, and local levels to identify and clarify issues affecting the health of women. It is available at <http://mchb.hrsa.gov/whusa09>.

## ON-LINE

**Spotlight on Poverty and Opportunity** recently posted a Web cast with **Dr. Risa Lavizzo-Mourey**, president of the **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation** (Princeton, NJ) and former member of the White House Task Force on Health Care Reform. The discussion moves beyond health coverage to explore the social and economic factors that influence health. Among the topics covered are the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's goal of reversing childhood obesity by 2015 and the disproportionately high obesity rates among low-income children. Dr. Lavizzo-Mourey describes how investments in preventative care can yield a positive economic impact and significantly reduce health care costs. To access the Web cast, visit [www.spotlightonpoverty.org/news.aspx?id=2e832acc-c229-48ce-ae06-e3cdd19ca439](http://www.spotlightonpoverty.org/news.aspx?id=2e832acc-c229-48ce-ae06-e3cdd19ca439). Contact: Helina Teklehaimanot, 301.656.0348.

## AWARDS

- Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota Foundation** (Eagan) has selected **Minnesota Green Communities** to receive its **4th Annual Upstream Health Leadership Award** for the organization's work on creating affordable, healthier, and more energy efficient housing throughout Minnesota. The award also includes a \$15,000 grant to support its work. Minnesota Green Communities is a statewide collabora-

tion of Greater Minnesota Housing Fund and Family Housing Fund, and the national organization Enterprise. The initiative, launched in 2005, supports the production of affordable housing, giving attention to the creation of healthy environments and lifestyles for individuals, children, families, and communities. The foundation will also give special recognition to **David Jacobs, Ph.D.**, director of research for the **National Center for Healthy Housing** (Columbia, MD), for his national leadership around housing and health, including his role with the **Viking Terrace Project** in Worthington, Minnesota. Funded by the foundation, Dr. Jacobs led a first-of-its-kind study on the Viking Terrace Project, an affordable housing preservation project, to evaluate the health impacts of green housing. The center works to control childhood exposure to lead, mold-induced illnesses, carbon monoxide poisoning, and other influences on health while preserving affordable housing. For more information, visit [www.bcbsmnfoundation.org](http://www.bcbsmnfoundation.org).

## OTHER NEWS

- California HealthCare Foundation** (Oakland) announced the selection of 30 health professionals for the ninth class of its **Health Care Leadership Program**. The program equips professionals with the skills needed to have a positive impact on health care policy and delivery in California. Sponsored by the foundation, the program is administered by the Center for the Health Professions at the University of California, San Francisco. Over the course of two years, fellows convene in seminars led by nationally recognized health care and leadership development experts and faculty associated with University of California, Los Angeles' Anderson School of Management. The program addresses health care issues from business, leadership, and public policy perspectives. Participants learn to build and lead teams, manage complexity and change, understand and use financial management tools, and respond to the changing health care environment. For a complete list of this year's recipients, visit