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News Release

*For Immediate Release*

### **Health Policy Experts to Decipher Health Care Reform at Public Forum**

The Springfield-Greene County Health Department has invited policy experts from the Missouri Foundation for Health to give a presentation about the federal Affordable Care Act from 10-11 a.m., Friday, Feb. 22 at the Springfield Art Museum auditorium, 1111 E. Brookside St. The session is open to the public.

Many Missourians have already seen changes in the health care system through implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). But, with a steady release of certain ACA components, it can be hard for some to stay abreast. The Missouri Foundation for Health is working to help Missourians better understand health care reform. The Foundation's policy experts are dispelling myths and breaking down the ACA into what Missouri needs to know.

The informational session on Feb. 22 at will include an "up-to-date" presentation about employer responsibilities, costs, and highlights what an individual needs to know to navigate the evolving health care system. There will also be a focus on how the ACA affects the public health sector.

"Community educational sessions, such as the one for the Springfield-Greene County Health Department, help Missourians understand health care in a way that they can use both be it in their everyday lives or trip to the doctor's office," said MFH health policy analyst Thomas McAuliffe.

The hour-long session is a part of the Cover Missouri initiative to incorporate community input, Foundation research, and economic analysis by state and national experts. The event is free to attend, with no RSVP necessary.

"This session is an occasion for our community to better understand the health care system and how it may impact us as an individual, a family, or even a business," said Mary Ellison, WIC Coordinator at the Springfield-Greene Health Department.

For more information on this informational session, contact: Mike Brothers, Public Health Information Administrator, (417) 874-1205.

For more state-specific information on health care or to learn more about Missouri Foundation for Health and Cover Missouri, please visit [www.mffh.org](http://www.mffh.org) and [www.covermissouri.org](http://www.covermissouri.org).

About Missouri Foundation For Health

Missouri Foundation for Health (MFH) is a private nonprofit organization working to improve the health of Missourians. The Foundation provides grant funding and education, fosters

community partnerships, and serves as the leading nonpartisan voice on health system topics of importance to Missouri. MFH is the largest health care foundation in the state and has provided more than \$470 million in grants and contracts since its founding in 2000.