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**IHI GATHERS HEALTHCARE LEADERS AND PRIMARY CARE TEAMS
FOR SUMMIT IN WASHINGTON DC**

Summit coincides with three-city tour to shed light on how mobile health clinics offer communities accessible, quality care

Cambridge, MA and Washington, DC (Gaylord Convention Center) – March 10, 2014 – [The Institute for Healthcare Improvement](#) (IHI), a leading innovator in health and health care improvement worldwide, kicked off its [15th Annual International Summit on Improving Patient Care in the Office Practice and the Community](#) in Washington DC. Taking place from March 9-11, more than 1,000 clinical providers and leaders are sharing the latest developments from communities across the US and Canada about the transformation of primary care, the creation and strengthening of ACOs, shifting goals to help whole populations achieve and maintain better health, new models for care management, and new opportunities for leveraging health IT.

This morning, IHI Executive Vice President Derek Feeley opened the Summit with a keynote address entitled, “And is the New Or,” in which he discussed the importance of combining both incremental and transformational changes in order to shift from a focus on health care to health. Stated Feeley, “To truly transform health care today, we need to achieve escape velocity. Just like achieving escape velocity in space travel required a bold strategy to escape the negative gravitational forces of the earth, we need to activate a plan to escape the negative gravitational forces surrounding today’s health care system – political gridlock, poor financial models, a focus on health care instead of health, deficit versus asset-based approaches, and volume instead of value. Health care needs not just incremental improvement, but a transformational improvement.” He called upon the Summit audience to “share an audacious goal for health” that could become a rallying cry and organizing tool for communities across North America and beyond.

IHI President & CEO Maureen Bisognano added, “Over time, [IHI’s Triple Aim](#) has become the organizing framework for how to improve health and health care at a lower cost. But we’ve long been aware that the health of any individual is only fractionally impacted by health care and that 80 percent of what ultimately determines our level of health and well-being occurs beyond the boundaries of the health care system. If we are to succeed in reducing the high costs of health care while improving the health of individuals and communities, we need to put a far greater emphasis on the proactive pursuit of health — not just the reactive delivery of health care. Achieving the Triple Aim isn’t easy, but we believe that setting audacious goals for health can accelerate change and bring people together to make the seemingly impossible, possible.”

One of the country’s foremost innovators on the effective management of chronic illness, Ed Wagner, Director of the MacColl Institute for Healthcare Innovation at the Group Health Research Institute, will also speak at the Summit. Dr. Wagner is now in the midst of a national initiative to determine the best staffing models needed for today’s primary care practices. Laura Adams, President and CEO of the Rhode

Island Quality Institute (RIQI) will address the Summit on Tuesday, focusing on how health IT can be an enabler of transformative change on the path to achieving the Triple Aim.

Dozens of summit sessions will reinforce the speakers' remarks and these larger ambitions, by digging into day-to-day clinical practice, with such topics as:

- New approaches to population health management
- New innovations for patients with complex needs
- Improving blood pressure control and managing hypertension, the most common condition in primary care
- Lessons learned from a statewide, multi-payer PCMH implementation
- Community health and violence prevention

In the days leading up to the Summit, IHI celebrated the successes and growing relevance of mobile health clinics to the transformation of health care with events in Boston, New York City, and Washington DC. In each city, community and clinic leaders discussed the local impact some 2,000 mobile clinics in the US are having in the context of health reform, pointed to evidence about the specific ways the health of individuals and communities can be impacted, and suggested further reforms that would help mobile clinics become even more sustainable.

Displaying yet another vision for mobile health delivery, The Kaiser Permanente Mobile Health Vehicle is on-site for Summit attendees to visit. This state-of-the-art vehicle is designed to mirror a small medical center on wheels, with two exam rooms, areas for patient intake and health education, and computers wired with Kaiser Permanente HealthConnect®. The Mobile Health Vehicle, which also offers preventive services and screenings, has the capability to provide health care access to thousands of Kaiser Permanente members and the uninsured within the Mid-Atlantic region.

Follow Twitter hashtag [#ihi15summit](#) for the up-to-the-minute developments and commentary.

For press credentials, event photos/video footage, or additional information, contact: Sandy George, sandy@cxocommunication.com.

About The Institute for Healthcare Improvement

IHI is a leading innovator in health and health care improvement worldwide. For more than 25 years, we have partnered with an ever-growing community of visionaries, leaders, and front-line practitioners around the globe to spark bold, inventive ways to improve the health of individuals and populations. Together, we build the will for change, seek out innovative models of care, and spread proven best practices. When it comes to raising the quality of health for all, IHI sees boundless possibilities and while we see the walls in front of us, we will not rest until we reach the other side. Learn more at ihi.org.

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