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**IHI WILL SUPPORT HEALTH CARE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT IN 10
COUNTRIES WORKING TO ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE**

**\$1.3 Million Grant from the Rockefeller Foundation to IHI Will Serve Low- and
Middle-Income Countries in Africa and Asia**

Cambridge, MA – January 23, 2012 – The Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI), an independent not-for-profit organization that works with health care providers and leaders throughout the world to achieve safe and effective health care, announced today that it has been awarded a \$1.3 million grant from the Rockefeller Foundation to provide technical support to, and facilitate networking among, 10 countries that are participating in the Joint Learning Network (JLN). In this work, IHI is partnering with the international division of the UK National Institute for Clinical Effectiveness (NI), which has global experience in supporting the clinical effectiveness of health systems.

The JLN is focused on assisting 10 countries in Asia and Africa that are striving to provide universal health coverage to their populations. Its mission is to accelerate the progress and improve the success of these low- and middle-income countries that are attempting to implement financing reforms designed to improve health outcomes and financial protection for the poor. The organization offers a platform for member countries to exchange ideas and best practices. IHI, in partnership with NI, was asked to lead efforts to ensure that health system quality was addressed while these countries strive to make health care more affordable and accessible. IHI and NI bring specific expertise to help countries to develop innovative solutions to some of the fundamental challenges for universal health coverage: given widespread poverty, inadequate transport and high disease burden, how do you provide safe, accessible, effective, affordable and patient-centered care to the whole population with the limited resources at hand? IHI and NI will also play a convening role, providing a platform for JLN countries to learn from countries that already have good solutions to these challenges

The grant will fund work spanning a 24-month period in Ghana, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, Mali, Nigeria, the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam. The award is part of the Rockefeller Foundation's ongoing commitment to build capabilities in targeted countries to promote stewardship of health systems and to improve those nations' capacity to collect, analyze, and use data to plan and manage high-performing health systems.

"IHI has helped design and implement a series of highly successful quality improvement initiatives in low- and middle-income countries," said IHI Senior Vice President Pierre

Barker, MD, who oversees IHI's work in low- and middle-income countries. "This is an important opportunity to bring together two of the world's leading health care improvement organizations to support low- and middle-income countries that are striving to make their health systems accessible, affordable, and safe for their populations. We look forward to applying our experience across the Joint Learning Network and to both support and learn from these countries that are on this exciting journey of building universal health coverage."

The work with JLN countries builds on innovative health care improvement initiatives that IHI is engaged with throughout the world. In addition to extensive work in the United States, IHI has established partnerships or on-the-ground health system improvement initiatives in Denmark, Malawi, Chile, India, Ghana, New Zealand, South Africa, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

"This project represents an important opportunity to apply IHI's quality improvement expertise to the critical work of increasing health care access and quality in low- and middle-income countries," said IHI President and CEO Maureen Bisognano. "We are excited about the opportunity to partner with NI and deeply grateful to the Rockefeller Foundation for its financial support and for identifying the need to enhance the capacity of health professionals to bring about change across the globe, as part of the Foundation's Transforming Health System's initiative."

For more information, please contact Nicole Summer, Goodman Media International, at 212-576-2700 ext. 255 or nsummer@goodmanmedia.com.

About IHI:

The Institute for Healthcare Improvement (www.IHI.org) is an independent not-for-profit organization that works with health care providers and leaders throughout the world to achieve safe and effective health care. IHI focuses on motivating and building the will for change, identifying and testing new models of care in partnership with both patients and health care professionals, and ensuring the broadest possible adoption of best practices and effective innovations. Based in Cambridge, Massachusetts, IHI mobilizes teams, organizations, and increasingly nations, through its staff of more than 100 people and partnerships with hundreds of faculty around the world.

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