FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 9, 2013

Physician Leaders Selected as Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars

Chapel Hill, N.C.—The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars program is pleased to announce the selection of 28 of the country’s most promising physician leaders, who will develop the skills to lead the transformation of America’s health and health care. Their two-year fellowships begin in July 2014.

“We look forward to welcoming this new group of outstanding physicians who will tackle important issues such as covering the uninsured, preventing disease, promoting healthier lifestyles, and strengthening public health,” said Desmond K. Runyan, MD, DrPH, national program director for the Clinical Scholars program. “These individuals bring the expertise and the passion to be the change agents needed to improve health and health care in America.”

This is the 42nd group of Clinical Scholars chosen since the program was started by RWJF in 1972. Clinical Scholars were selected competitively from more than 70 applicants enrolled in medical and surgical residencies across the United States. In addition to the participation of a number of primary care physicians and pediatricians, this year’s cohort includes two OB/GYN specialists, two psychiatrists, an anesthesiologist, and a plastic surgeon.

Through a partnership of more than 30 years, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will jointly support 14 of the 28 scholars through VA Medical Centers affiliated with the participating universities: Yale University, the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Michigan, and the University of California, Los Angeles. These universities are also providing support for seven of the 28 scholars in combination with RWJF and VA funding.

“As one of RWJF’s flagship programs, Clinical Scholars is among the most prestigious fellowships awarded to physicians,” said David M. Krol, MD, MPH, FAAP, senior program officer at RWJF and a Clinical Scholars alumnus. “For years, Clinical Scholars have been leaving their mark as White House Fellows; government health officials at the state and federal levels; medical school deans; leaders of private medical institutions; and always as physicians, dedicated to the highest standards of patient care.”

Through the program, scholars will spend two years examining the delivery, impact, and organization of health care. In addition to training in leadership, health policy, and health services research methods, Clinical Scholars are trained in community-based participatory research (CBPR). By engaging community members in the research process, the CBPR model creates a two-way exchange that aims to improve health behaviors while bringing resources and greater visibility to the health issues within a particular community.

Click here for a full list of the 2014 Clinical Scholars. For more information about the Clinical Scholars program, visit http://rwjcsp.unc.edu/
About the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation focuses on the pressing health and health care issues facing our country. As the nation’s largest philanthropy devoted exclusively to health and health care, the Foundation works with a diverse group of organizations and individuals to identify solutions and achieve comprehensive, measurable, and timely change.

For more than 40 years, the Foundation has brought experience, commitment, and a rigorous, balanced approach to the problems that affect the health and health care of those it serves. When it comes to helping Americans lead healthier lives and get the care they need, the Foundation expects to make a difference in your lifetime.

For more information, visit www.rwjf.org. Follow the Foundation on Twitter at www.rwjf.org/twitter or on Facebook at www.rwjf.org/facebook.