

2002 Tour, *Listening Tour I*

The 2002 Listening Tour was conducted in an effort to gauge perceptions of Georgia's most critical health issues through the voices and experiences of healthcare providers, mental health providers, community foundations, school systems, and other non profit organizations. The Tour sought to introduce the Healthcare Georgia Foundation into the community of public health professionals as a concerned entity and was an effort to create an informed, relevant, and effective grantmaking system for the Foundation. The Tour provided powerful information on the health status of Georgians, efficient grant making procedures, and the identification of model community-based programs throughout the state.

2003-2004 Tour, *Sessions with Georgia Healthcare Consumers, Listening Tour II*

In 2003, the Healthcare Georgia Foundation sponsored a Listening Tour to capture Georgians' (consumers) experiences with the healthcare system. This Tour was conducted as a follow-up to the 2002 Listening Tour which sought to introduce the Foundation to the community, and to assess the areas of greatest need to inform grant-making and funding strategies. This Tour captured a consumer perspective on health and heard community experiences within the healthcare system. The Foundation used this information to assist its grantees in creating programs that comprehensively and efficiently serve the health-related needs of Georgians.

2006 Tour, *Voices of Georgia's Leadership, Listening Tour III*

To provide an alternative perspective to better understand the issues directly impacting consumers and providers, the Foundation sponsored the *2006 Healthcare Georgia Foundation Listening Tour, Voices of Georgia's Leadership*. This Tour convened Georgia's thought leaders, corporate representatives, and government officials. These sessions revealed the structural and political barriers, from a policy perspective, related to expanding access to, and quality of healthcare for Georgians.

2009 Tour, *Voices for Community Change, Listening Tour IV*

Listening Tour IV, Voices for Community Change is a follow-up to those Tours conducted in 2002, 2003-2004, and 2006. The process for *Listening Tour IV* will simultaneously engage consumers, safety net providers and organizations, and policymakers in both urban and rural settings to:

- (1) Provide an opportunity for each audience group to share experiences and perspectives.
- (2) Identify the health and healthcare needs of Georgia's healthcare consumers, safety net providers, and policymakers.
- (3) Identify and address barriers to simultaneously convening these three audience groups.
- (4) Identify strategies and opportunities for these three groups to work together in creating accessible healthcare.