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**BOSTON'S COMMUNITY MEDICAL GROUP RECEIVES FINALIST AWARD FOR PROVIDING COMPREHENSIVE CARE TO MORE THAN 400 PATIENTS WITH SEVERE PHYSICAL DISABILITIES**

BOSTON, February 9, 2010—Boston's Community Medical Group in Boston has been recognized by the Premier healthcare alliance and its member hospitals for providing comprehensive care to more than 400 patients with severe physical disabilities.

Founded in 1988, Boston's Community Medical Group (BCMG) provides care to individuals living with conditions such as congenital anomalies, nervous system tumors, neuromuscular disorders, spinal cord injuries, traumatic brain injuries, and cerebral palsy. All participants use wheelchairs for mobility and rely on personal care attendants or alternatives for assistance with activities of daily living.

BCMG's mission is to provide high quality, comprehensive primary care in the most efficient and cost-effective manner possible by reducing barriers to care and establishing a highly personalized partnership with patients. BCMG costs rank far below traditional Medicaid fee-for-service plans that would typically cover these patients.

BCMG was one of six organizations nationally recognized as a finalist for the 18th annual Monroe E. Trout Premier Cares Award. The Cares Award, sponsored by the Premier healthcare alliance and its member hospitals, honors exemplary efforts by not-for-profit organizations to improve access to healthcare for the underserved.

"To be nationally recognized for this award is a great honor," said Mary Glover, BCMG's executive director. "It draws attention to primary care-based clinical models like BCMG's that successfully improve the health care needs of our vulnerable and disabled populations."

BCMG is a nonprofit clinical affiliate of Commonwealth Care Alliance, a Boston-based nonprofit health care delivery company that offers a full spectrum of medical and social services for people with complex needs covered under Medicaid and for those "dually eligible" for both Medicaid and Medicare. BCMG provides care to Commonwealth Care Alliance's Medicaid eligible adults.

"For our clinical affiliate to be a finalist for this national award speaks to the success we are achieving by redesigning, empowering, and enhancing primary care with nurses, nurse practitioners, and social workers to more effectively improve care and manage costs for populations with the greatest burdens of chronic illness and disability," said Dr. Robert J. Master, Commonwealth Care Alliance's president and CEO.

"The BCMG team is the national leader for patient-centered care and service for people with significant disabilities, having clear understanding of the importance of the individual in helping determine what's

appropriate,” said Bill Henning, executive director of Boston Center for Independent Living, a nonprofit organization created by people with disabilities seeking full integration into society. “Our members — often disdainful of medical professionals — rave about BCMG and their emphasis on keeping people in their homes.”

Representing BCMG, Ms. Glover and Ken MacDonald, Durable Medical Equipment Coordinator, accepted a cash award of \$24,000 during Premier’s annual Governance Education Conference, which took place in Phoenix on January 25–27.

#### **About the Boston’s Community Medical Group**

BCMG, a not-for-profit group practice established in 1988, is committed to providing high quality, comprehensive primary care to individuals with disabilities. As one of the first groups in the nation to provide community-based primary care to adults with severe physical disabilities, our practice is designed to offer a multi-disciplinary team approach to care that emphasizes preventive health care strategies, management of chronic conditions, as well as prompt responsiveness to new problems.

BCMG is dedicated to providing care that is individualized to meet each person’s needs and to enhance their ability to live independently in the *community of their choice*. For more information, visit [www.bcmgweb.org](http://www.bcmgweb.org).

#### **About Commonwealth Care Alliance**

Commonwealth Care Alliance is a nonprofit care delivery system committed to providing integrated health care and related social support services. Created in 2003, Commonwealth Care Alliance is a “consumer-governed” organization offering a full spectrum of medical and social services for people with complex needs covered under Medicaid and for those “dually eligible” for both Medicaid and Medicare. For more information, visit [www.commonwealthcare.org](http://www.commonwealthcare.org).

Commonwealth Care Alliance is not affiliated with the Commonwealth Health Insurance Connector Authority’s Commonwealth Care program.

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