



## **Trust for America's Health Receives \$3.8 Million Grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for Improving the Public Health System**

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**WASHINGTON, May 11, 2005** – Trust for America's Health (TFAH) today announced it has received a two-and-a-half year, \$3.8 million grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) to continue public awareness and advocacy efforts to ensure a strong and adequately funded 21<sup>st</sup> century public health system.

“This support will allow us to continue educating Americans about the benefits of a modern public health system and how it helps improve our daily lives,” said Dr. Shelley Hearne, Executive Director of TFAH. “Our hope is to build the groundwork for a vision of the future of public health in America.”

TFAH will focus project efforts on improving U.S. health and preparedness by communicating and educating policymakers and the public, promoting the benefits of a modern public health system, developing reports and studies on the most important issues facing Americans' health, and improving the quality and content of health information available online, especially with respect to disease prevention.

TFAH also will develop a National Summit for Public Health in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, a keynote event to improve America's future health, which will engage leading health thinkers, business leaders, policymakers, and the general public. The summit will be the culmination of a series of regional meetings and national exercises focused on pertinent health issues and specific policy goals.

“We are excited to continue our work to improve the current U.S. public health system while striving toward the goal of protecting the health of every American,” Hearne added.

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*Trust for America's Health is a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to saving lives by protecting the health of every community and working to make disease prevention a national priority.*

*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 improving the health and health care of all Americans, the Foundation works with a diverse group of organizations and individuals to identify solutions and achieve comprehensive, meaningful and timely change. For more than 30 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. Helping Americans lead healthier lives and get the care they need—the Foundation expects to make a difference in our lifetime. For more information, visit [www.rwjf.org](http://www.rwjf.org).*