



THE  
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## **For Immediate Release**

**May 12, 2009**

### **Commonwealth Institute Receives Rapoport Grant**

*Funding will support health care reform efforts*

The Commonwealth Institute for Fiscal Analysis has received a \$25,000 grant from the Bernard Audre Rapoport Foundation to support The Institute's research, analysis and public education on state health care policy.

"We are very pleased to have been awarded the confidence of the Rapoport Foundation and to partner with them to bring about reform to our health care system for all Virginians," says Institute Executive Director Michael Cassidy. "Since our founding three years ago, The Commonwealth Institute has brought credible, accessible and timely research and analysis to support the work of the advocacy community, filling a void in the state's system of advocacy."

Since its inception in 1986, the Bernard and Audre Rapoport Foundation has dedicated more than \$37 million in grants to improve the social fabric of life. The Foundation seeks innovative solutions to intractable and persistent problems and strives to cultivate emerging talents and promising models. Founders Bernard and Audre Rapoport are actively involved in the Foundation's operations, which have touched many lives in the area of education, arts and culture, health and human service, and civic participation.

In the area of democracy and civic participation the Foundation supports efforts both to make government more responsive and to encourage citizens to take an active interest and role in political life. The Foundation promotes intergovernmental cooperation as well as initiatives that broaden citizen awareness of public policy issues and alternatives, build skills necessary for political leadership, and provide opportunities for community service.

The Commonwealth Institute for Fiscal Analysis was founded in 2006 as a program of the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy. The Commonwealth Institute provides credible, independent and accessible information and analyses of state fiscal issues with particular attention to the impacts on low- and moderate-income persons. Their work informs state fiscal and budget policy debates and contributes to sound decisions that improve the well-being of individuals, communities and Virginia as a whole.

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