



## News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **KAISER FAMILY FOUNDATION TO OPEN WASHINGTON D.C. PUBLIC AFFAIRS CENTER**

*New Building Features Barbara Jordan Conference Center and Broadcast Studio  
Designed to Assist Non-profit Organizations*

Washington – On March 27, the Kaiser Family Foundation will officially open its new Washington, D.C., building and Public Affairs Center, creating a new philanthropic tool for the Foundation and others to both hold public events and communicate more effectively not only in Washington but throughout the world.

The Kaiser building houses the Kaiser Public Affairs Center, which is comprised of: the Barbara Jordan Conference Center, a state-of-the-art conference facility capable of web-casting or broadcasting proceedings for local, national and international audiences; the Kaiser Broadcast Studio, a broadcasting and web-casting facility; and the Kaiser Interactive Health Exhibit Lobby, a street-level exhibition space designed to provide information on health policy and public health to the public using a tickertape with daily health news, a video wall and interactive exhibits.

The Kaiser building – at 1330 G St. NW in the heart of the downtown development area at Metro Center and two blocks from the White House and National Press Building – will also house the Foundation's Washington, D.C. office and Washington-based staff and several major Foundation programs, including the Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured; KaiserNetwork.org, the Foundation's free online resource for health policy news; and the Foundation's South Africa program offices. The Foundation, which is based in Menlo Park, Calif., has operated an office in leased space in Washington, D.C. for the past 12 years.

The late Barbara Jordan, the first African American elected to Congress from Texas and a much-admired member of the Foundation's board of trustees from 1985 to 1993, was the first recipient of the Foundation's Nelson Mandela Award for Health and Human Rights in 1993. She was the driving force behind Kaiser's longstanding commitment to improving health and promoting democracy in South Africa, begun in 1988 and substantially expanded since.

The building was designed to enhance the Foundation's philanthropic efforts – including holding briefings and conferences on health issues – and to offer non-profits, especially health nonprofits with limited budgets, the ability to host meetings and conferences in a state-of-the-art facility. The building's conference and broadcast facilities will be made available to nonprofits free of charge. The building was financed with AAA-rated low-interest District of Columbia tax-exempt bonds.

“We hope that this building will be an important new tool for the Foundation and many other nonprofits, and we hope it will contribute to the ongoing revitalization of downtown Washington, D.C.,” said Drew Altman, Ph.D., president and CEO of the Foundation.

An exhibition space on the first floor will feature a video wall with broadcasts of educational programs and live feeds from Kaisernetwork.org's daily coverage of health events such as Congressional hearings, press briefings and conferences in Washington and elsewhere. A ticker tape, visible to street traffic from the front window, will provide the day's headlines from health news across the country and the world, and terminals in the lobby will provide access to Kaiser's and others' information.

Audiovisual and broadcasting technology will enable the Foundation and others using the center to produce webcasts, broadcasting feeds, taped programs, teleconferencing feeds and display screens around the building. Seminars held in one part of the building can be viewed, for example, in the lobby-level exhibit area, waiting areas and other conference space – and can be transmitted as a broadcast, webcast or telecast. The conference center also includes pre-function rooms, breakout meeting spaces, a visitor's services center with computer connections and business equipment, and full catering facilities.

The center was designed by Mullen Rubin Architects of New York City. Interior architectural design was provided by Gensler Architecture, Design & Planning Worldwide's Washington, D.C. office. The Clark Construction Group Inc., headquartered in Bethesda, M.d., was general contractor. And Concord Partners of Washington, D.C. served as owner's representative on the project.

The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, founded in 1948 in Menlo Park, Calif., is a non-profit, independent national health care philanthropy dedicated to providing information and analysis on the major health issues facing the nation to policymakers, the media and the general public. The Foundation's work is focused in three main areas: health policy, media and public education and health and development in South Africa. The Foundation is not associated with Kaiser Permanente or Kaiser Industries.

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