

## **RxAssist Launches Online Community for Health Care Professionals and Advocates Confronted with Medication Access Issues**

2.5 million Americans lost their jobs last year. We are nearly halfway through 2009 and employers continue to lay off their staff in record numbers. As a result, the rate of unemployed, uninsured, and underinsured citizens is on the rise—Patients Assistance Programs are in high demand.

The increased need for assistance programs and the demands on a patient advocate's time and resources is skyrocketing. In light of these conditions, RxAssist created a companion website, **The Learning Center**, specifically for patient advocates seeking to quickly and efficiently help their patients access their medications.

RxAssist Program Director Charles Eaton, MD shared his thoughts on the need for a learning center dedicated to advocates.

"We, at RxAssist, know that Advocates need a place to share ideas and communicate with their colleagues on a more consistent basis. So we developed this site as a trustworthy, up to date resource to make the daily job of a patient advocate easier," said Eaton.

First time visitors are asked to register. As registered users advocates and health care providers can interact through an online forum where they can post questions and/or opinions related to pharmaceutical access programs and best practices. Users can also have their questions answered in a timely fashion in the "Ask the Expert" section by an RxAssist-selected assistance program expert.

The Learning Center also gives patient advocates access to standardized tools to help increase their efficiency such as sample medication charts, client forms, patient assistance program checklists, and tip sheets. Other useful features include access to the RxConnects listserv; a searchable library; and calendar of upcoming PAP events.

Recognizing the important role of patient assistance advocates, The Learning Center will regularly feature profiles on a "Navigator of the Month." These individuals will be nominated by their Learning Center colleagues and recognized for their dedication to exceptional service and leadership in community health.

Supported by AstraZeneca, The Learning Center is a sister site to [www.rxassist.org](http://www.rxassist.org), a web-based resource center that provides the most comprehensive and current information for healthcare providers and patients confronted with medication access issues.

Make your job a little easier and join your colleagues today! Visit <http://learning.rxassist.org/> to get started. Also visit the webinar archives to view an instructional webinar, "Making Medication Assistance Easier," on how to best use the resources in the Learning Center to help your patients.