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MEDIA ADVISORY

HEALTHCARE LANGUAGE BARRIERS COSTLY, INTERPRETERS CAN LIMIT MEDICAL ERRORS

New National Report to be Released at Thursday Audio Press Conference

Study interviewed over 4,000 people to explore the human and economic consequences of inadequate provision of interpreters for patients who speak little or no English. The survey report, *What A Difference An Interpreter Can Make: Health Care Experiences of Uninsured with Limited English Proficiency*, is being released by The Access Project, a Brandeis University-affiliated national resource center for local groups working to improve access to healthcare.

Interviews were conducted at 23 locations in 12 states: **Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Louisiana, Nevada, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee, and Virginia.**

AUDIO PRESS CONFERENCE

THURSDAY, APRIL 25

1 P.M. (EDT)

TOLL-FREE CALL-IN #: 888-448-9410 – PASSWORD: Access Project

CALL TO RESERVE: Nancy Bennett (800) 834-1110

SPEAKERS:

Mark Rukavina, Executive Director, The Access Project, Brandeis University

Dennis P. Andrulis, primary researcher of the report. Research Professor, State University of New York Downstate Medical Center

Joseph R. Betancourt, M.D., M.P.H., Senior Scientist, Institute for Health Policy and Director for Multicultural Education, Multicultural Affairs Office, Massachusetts General Hospital-Harvard Medical School.

Mara Youdelman, attorney, National Health Law Program (NHeLP)

Personal story by a person with limited English proficiency with the help of a translator

Starting Tuesday, go to www.accessproject.org for embargoed report in both English and Spanish, as well as personal stories, contact information for national experts and local spokespeople, links to related immigration and health issues websites, and state data.

CONTACT: Nancy Bennett, 800-834-1110