



The promise of a better life.

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**Media Contact: Kim Usey, Director of
Communications**

kim@sdchf.org, 879.6612

ST. DAVID'S COMMUNITY HEALTH FOUNDATION SEES 42 PERCENT INCREASE IN GRANTS TO CENTRAL TEXAS NONPROFITS

AUSTIN (December 18, 2007) –St. David's Community Health Foundation announced today that it is awarding nearly \$4.8 million in grants to 35 area nonprofits that provide access to health care, education, and support for Central Texans. The Foundation awards grants twice a year, with grants supporting mental health given in June. The total amount of grant support provided to local agencies has more than tripled since 2005.

"At St. David's Community Health Foundation, we make the promise of a better life," said Earl Maxwell, CEO of St. David's Community Health Foundation. "We keep this promise through education, research, and community partnerships, all with the goal of helping to provide health care to all Central Texans. Our partners who receive our funding in this grant cycle will put it to good use, reaching out to the underserved, uninsured, and those in need."

The majority of grant awards announced today provide a 29 percent increase in funding toward the operating costs in area clinics for community-based primary health care for all ages. These include prenatal care, immunization programs, and disease management services. Austin's elderly are also priority, with a 77 percent increase in funding over last year. Programs targeting such special populations as children and cancer patients receive an 82 percent increase in funding.

"St. David's Community Health Foundation is fortunate to be in a position to increase the number of dollars flowing back into the Central Texas community," said C.W. Hetherly, chairman of the Foundation's board. "As our hospital system and medical partnerships grow, so does our ability to further our mission of increasing access to health care for everyone."

Eleven of the nonprofits are first-time recipients of the Foundation's grants, and 22 of the 24 previous recipients saw an increase in support. Last year, seven agencies were first-time recipients among 23 total agencies.

Among the agencies receiving their first grants from St. David's Community Health Foundation are the Texas Ramp Project, which provides free wheelchair ramps for disabled residents who cannot afford them, and The Care Communities, which provides volunteer support to people living with serious illnesses to help them continue to live independently.

"This grant will enable The Care Communities to grow our volunteer Care Team program by 50 percent," said executive director Carol Johnson. "We will be able to hire an additional person to help with volunteer recruitment and training."

Enabling volunteerism and client independence will be a benefit for the grant to the Texas Ramp Project as well, according to executive director John Laine. "Our Austin project will use the funding provided by St. David's Community Health Foundation to expand our capabilities to train and equip volunteer construction teams, to upgrade our website to include a secure area for referrals and a database, and to purchase lumber. We are so pleased to be able to partner with St. David's Community Health Foundation as we seek to assist the disabled to lead more independent lives."

The Foundation grants also enable agencies to have a steady, reliable partner in their health-care efforts. Such long-term partners as Lone Star Circle of Care in Georgetown include Foundation funding in their annual planning.

“The strategic partnership and generous financial support we receive from St. David’s Community Health Foundation has been the crucial cornerstone in our efforts to build a firm and sustainable platform to develop our ongoing mission,” said Pete Perialas, chief executive officer of Lone Star Circle of Care. “Funding from the Foundation provides us with the ability to launch and expand key programs our community desperately needs, including pre-natal and OB-GYN care for uninsured women, disease management and integrated mental health care for chronically ill patients with no medical home and no insurance, services for senior citizens, and much-needed dental care for children and adults who have no other source for it.

“St. David’s Community Health Foundation keeps us in a position to provide reliable, affordable, and effective primary care to tens of thousands of the uninsured and underserved in Central Texas.”

The mission of St. David's Community Health Foundation is to improve access to health care for Central Texans. For more information, visit www.sdchf.org.

-30-

St. David's Community Health Foundation Grant Totals 2004-2008

2004: \$1,188,000

2005: \$2,016,908

2006: \$4,101,131

2007: \$5,222,150

2008: \$6,562,678*

** includes projected budget for mental health grants to be awarded in mid-2008*

St. David's Community Health Foundation 2007 Physical Health Grant Recipients

St. David's Community Health Foundation Grants for Physical Health-Clinics
\$3,124,558 **29% increase over 2007 total of \$2,319,801**

El Buen Samaritano: \$500,000 for general operating support for the Wallace Mallory Healthcare Clinic. *2007 grant: \$450,000.*

Lone Star Circle of Care: \$600,000 for general operating support for this Williamson County safety net clinic. *2007 grant: \$275,000.*

People's Community Clinic: \$1,520,936 for general operating support and special projects. *2007 grant: \$1,343,461.*

Samaritan Health Ministries: \$49,000 for general operating support. *2007 grant: \$30,000.*

Travis County Medical Society: \$150,000 for Project Access, which provides volunteer physicians for the uninsured. *First-time recipient.*

U.T. School of Nursing, Children's Wellness Center and Family Wellness Center: \$254,622 for general operating support in the form of salaries at both clinics and an immunization program. *2007 grant: \$251,340.*

Volunteer Health Clinic: \$50,000 for general operating support in walk-in clinic services and chronic disease management services. *2007 grant: \$70,000 (2008 grant is full amount requested).*

St. David's Community Health Foundation Grants for Physical Health-Special Populations
\$708,190 **82% increase over 2007 total of \$389,075**

Austin Voices for Education and Youth: \$36,000 for teaching life skills and drug prevention for middle school students. *First-time recipient.*

Boys & Girls Club of Austin & Travis County: \$32,000 for Kids Café, a nutritious food courier service to 10 clubs. *First-time recipient.*

Breast Cancer Resource Center: \$93,000 for breast cancer patient navigation and physician outreach. *2007 grant: \$67,175.*

Cancer Connection (formerly CanCare): \$33,860 for expansion of its pilot program training volunteers to work with newly diagnosed cancer patients in hospitals. *2007 grant: \$32,960.*

Children's Hearing Aid Texas: \$30,000 for hearing aids and services and some operating costs. *2007 grant: \$30,000.*

Community Case Manager for AISD Vision and Hearing: \$30,000 for case manager position, to link children to services. *2007 grant: \$14,960.*

Easter Seals – Central Texas: \$40,000 for a medical rehabilitation sliding-scale fee project. *2007 grant: \$25,000.*

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Austin and Central Texas: \$150,000 towards construction of the Ronald McDonald House on Barbara Jordan Blvd. *First-time recipient.*

Tandem Project: \$185,790 for general operating support for this parenting teen program with intensive case management. *2007 grant: \$125,000.*

Wonders & Worries: \$40,000 for Child Life Specialists for children affected by illness. *2007 grant: \$40,000.*

Youth InterACTIVE: \$37,540 for program providing adapted sports and activities for underserved children. *2007 grant: \$31,440.*

St. David's Community Health Foundation Grants for Support Services for Older Adults
\$929,930 **77% increase over 2007 total of \$525,914**

Ageing Services Council: \$28,750 for program coordination. *2007 grant: \$24,580.*

Austin Groups for the Elderly: \$120,000 for the Elderhaven Day Care Center, Caregiver Resource Center, and accreditation. *2007 grant: \$85,000.*

Capital Area Food Bank of Texas: \$25,000 for the Healthy Options Program for the Elderly (HOPE). *First-time recipient.*

The Care Communities: \$43,242 for program capacity expansion to serve additional clients and to recruit volunteers. *First-time recipient.*

Faith in Action Caregivers: \$125,000 for general operating support. *2007 grant: \$100,000.*

Family Eldercare: \$100,000 for general operating support. *2007 grant: \$50,000. Family Eldercare was previously awarded a \$150,000 capital campaign grant from SDCHF for the three-year period 2007-2009.*

Greater Austin CARES: \$18,750 for this collaboration of faith-based Alzheimer's respite. *2007 grant: \$20,000 (2008 grant is full amount requested).*

Hospice Austin: \$78,666 for hospice charity care. *Hospice Austin last received a grant from SDCHF in 1996.*

Manos de Cristo: \$25,000 for a program providing affordable dental care to the elderly. *First-time recipient.*

Meals on Wheels and More (Austin): \$87,550 for a second-meal program, nutrition services, and a Medic Wheels program in East Austin. *2007 grant: \$70,000.*

New Connections: \$25,425 for general operating support. *2007 grant: \$20,925.*

Round Rock Area Serving Center: \$130,000 for assistance for basic needs and pharmaceuticals and a case manager. *2007 grant: \$130,000.*

Services for the Elderly: \$47,547 for in-home care for the elderly and disabled. *First-time recipient.*

Texas Ramp Project: \$20,000 for this program building wheelchair ramps for homes. *First-time recipient.*

Williamson-Burnet County Opportunities: \$55,000 for Meals on Wheels, Care Calls, and fund development. *2007 grant: \$25,409.*

Grant recipient contact information for media interviews:

Austin Voices for Education and Youth

Amy Averett, Executive Director
450-1880.office 773-8571.cell
aaverett@austinvoices.org

The Care Communities

Carol Johnson, Executive Director
694-9705.cell 459-5883.office
Carol@thecarecommunities.org

El Buen Samaritano

Ed Gomez, Executive Director
439-0700
egomez@elbuen.org

Lone Star Circle of Care

Pete Perialas, Chief Executive Officer
Amy Ellsworth, Director, Media & Community Relations
868-1124 x235
aellsworth@lscctx.org

The Texas Ramp Project

John Laine, Executive Director
972-235-7309
laineent@cs.com