

Memorial Health Care System

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MEMORIAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM AWARDED \$99,680 GRANT FOR VIOLENCE PREVENTION INITIATIVE

Memorial Health Care System has been awarded a \$99,680 grant to support Relationships Without Violence. This program will assess community perceptions about intimate personal violence among youth, determine awareness of the issue, and identify existing services available to address the problem. This information will be used to identify gaps in services in Hamilton County and provide recommendations for primary prevention programming based on study findings and best practices in order to ensure that the community has the tools needed to respond appropriately. The grant is provided by the Mission and Ministry Fund of Catholic Health Initiatives, the national health care system that includes Memorial Health Care System.

Established in 1996 by the health system's founding congregations, the Mission and Ministry Fund has awarded 311 grants totaling more than \$38.4 million to programs across the globe. The fund was established through contributions from Catholic Health Initiatives' facilities across the nation, including Memorial Health Care System.

In addition to the annual grants from its longstanding Mission and Ministry Fund, CHI this year provided a \$2 million donation to Mercy Housing, Omaha, Neb. The organization also pledged \$333,000 in a donation for disaster-relief efforts in Haiti as part of a three-year commitment to channel \$1 million for humanitarian efforts in that country through the Campaign for Rebirth and Renewal, a program sponsored by the Catholic Health Association and Catholic Relief Services.

Relationships Without Violence will serve Hamilton County and also contribute to Catholic Health Initiatives' system-wide initiative to prevent violence in every community the health care system serves.

“This grant supports a valuable program that will enable Memorial to continue its mission to make our community a safer and healthier place to live, work and play,” said Jim Hobson, Memorial president and chief executive officer. “Memorial is excited to participate in this program and to continue doing its part to prevent violence within our community,” he said.

Kevin Lofton, president and chief executive officer of Catholic Health Initiatives, agrees that this grant helps further the missions of both Memorial and Catholic Health Initiatives.

“In name and in spirit, the Mission and Ministry Fund grants we award each year truly represent the mission of Catholic Health Initiatives, which is to create and nurture healthy communities,” he said. “We are committed to violence prevention as an essential element of building healthy communities.”

Memorial Health Care System is a not-for-profit, faith-based healthcare organization dedicated to the healing ministry of the Church. Founded by the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth and strengthened as part of Catholic Health Initiatives, it offers a continuum of care including preventative, primary and acute hospital care, as well as cancer and cardiac care, orthopedic and rehabilitation services. Memorial is a regional referral center of choice with 4,000 associates and more than 700 affiliated physicians providing health care throughout Southeast Tennessee and North Georgia. Memorial Health Care System is recognized as one of the nation's 100 Top Hospitals® by Thomson Reuters, the health care industry's leading source of information on hospital quality. To learn more, visit www.memorial.org.

Catholic Health Initiatives is a national nonprofit health organization with headquarters in Denver, Colorado. The faith-based system operates in 20 states and includes 72 hospitals; 40 long-term care, assisted- and residential-living facilities; and two community health-services organizations. Together, those facilities provided \$589 million during the 2010 fiscal year in charity care and community benefit, including services for the poor, free clinics, education and research. With annual revenues of \$9.0 billion, CHI ranks as the nation's third-largest Catholic health care system.

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