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**ILLINOIS CHILDREN'S HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION  
AWARDS OVER \$5.6 MILLION IN GRANTS**

*Twenty-three organizations will receive new funding to expand clinic-based health services to children statewide.*

**Hinsdale, Ill. (Nov. 20, 2006)** - The Illinois Children's Healthcare Foundation (ILCHF) today announced it has approved 36 grants totaling \$5,643,287 for programs designed to increase the access Illinois children have to specific health services. About \$4.4 million of that total will go towards new initiatives. This round of grants marks the third year of funding since ILCHF was established in late 2002.

Funding for new initiatives went to applicants who were establishing or expanding oral or mental health services provided to children through community-based or school-based health centers. In all, funding for these new initiatives will help deliver care to or work on behalf of some 212,000 children annually statewide.

The remaining dollars continued support of initiatives funded in 2005 that were designed to increase the access children have to ongoing health care, expand oral and mental health programs, and address efforts to increase the use of developmental screening tools throughout the state.

"The majority of our funding this year was focused very strategically on expanding the capacity of the safety net system throughout Illinois," said Peter E. Doris, MD, ILCHF Board Chair. "We built on our efforts begun in 2005 and worked to ensure we funded organizations that were creating comprehensive 'medical homes' for underserved children.

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### **The 2006 grant recipients are:**

- Access Community Health Network, Chicago (\$195,673)
- Alivio Medical Center, Chicago (\$215,150)
- Aunt Martha's Youth Service Center, Chicago Heights (\$227,431)
- Cass County, Virginia (\$154,000)
- Central Counties Health Centers, Inc., Springfield (\$100,000)
- Christopher Greater Rural Health Planning Corp., Christopher (\$200,000)
- Coles County Mental Health Association, Inc., Mattoon (\$326,516)
- Community Health Care, Inc., Davenport, IA (\$126,380)
- Community Health Improvement Council of Decatur, Decatur (\$200,000)
- Community Health Partnership of Illinois, Chicago (\$256,942)
- Crusader Central Clinic Association, Rockford (\$300,050)
- Douglas County Health Dept., Tuscola (\$170,000)
- Erie Family Health Center, Chicago (\$261,876)
- Gallatin County Community Unit School District #7, Junction (\$307,800)
- Greater Elgin Family Care Center, Elgin (\$120,000)
- Loyola University Medical Center, Maywood (\$138,765)
- Macoupin County Public Health Dept., Carlinville (\$213,425)
- PCC Community Wellness Center, Oak Park (\$260,329)
- Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center, Mattoon (\$50,000)
- Shawnee Health Service and Development Corp., Carterville (\$204,863)
- Southern Illinois Healthcare Foundation, East St. Louis (\$65,656)
- St. Bernard Hospital, Chicago (\$100,000)

### **Other requests approved by the Board of Directors include:**

- Action for Children, Chicago (\$80,000)
- Advocate Charitable Foundation, Park Ridge (\$139,787)
- CCRC Community Link, Breese (\$79,373)
- Children's Memorial Hospital, Chicago (\$237,750)
- Children's Hospital of Illinois, Peoria (\$350,000)
- Grantmakers in Health, Washington, DC (\$7,000)
- Hope School, Springfield (\$100,000)
- La Rabida Children's Hospital, Chicago (\$70,000)
- Ounce of Prevention Fund, Chicago (\$75,000)
- Rush University Medical Center, Chicago (\$50,390)

### **Continued funding was approved for:**

- Community Health Partnership of Illinois, Chicago (\$114,322)
- Illinois State University, Normal (\$44,854)
- Lester and Rosalie Anixter Center, Chicago (\$25,000)
- Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law, Chicago (\$75,000)

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### *ILCHF Awards Grants/Page Three*

ILCHF received 70 proposals in response to their Request for Proposals issued in May.

- Of the 23 clinic-related grants funded, eight will use dollars to establish or expand dental services provided to children.
- More than 17,000 children will benefit from new or expanded services offered through school-based and school-linked health centers.
- Six of the grantees funded during this cycle will focus the majority of their efforts on providing mental and behavioral health services to children.

Selected grantees from the 2005 funding cycle were also invited to submit requests for renewal of funding – 8 of those were awarded funds during this cycle.

The Foundation's next grant cycle is tentatively scheduled to begin in early 2007 with the release of an RFP for child health data research. For more details about the 2006 grantees, please visit the Foundation's web site ([www.ilchf.org](http://www.ilchf.org)).

The Illinois Children's Healthcare Foundation was formed with one goal in mind: to improve the health of all Illinois children. Through the annual release of targeted RFPs and proactive, ongoing funding, ILCHF works to eliminate the barriers that prevent children from regularly accessing high-quality health care. ILCHF concentrates its funding in three general areas: improving the oral health of underserved children; increasing early identification and intervention for developmental issues; and, supporting the mental health needs of children. In addition, the Foundation monitors other health concerns in order to develop appropriate funding responses as necessary. By the end of 2006, total funding for the year is expected to be \$6.2 million. Over the past three years the Foundation has awarded more than \$17 million in grants to organizations serving children's health needs across the state.

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