



Dominican Hospital

A member of CHW

NEWS RELEASE

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Dominican Hospital, CHW donate \$134,000 to local charities

Members of the Dominican Community Advisors choose recipients

SANTA CRUZ – Thanks to Dominican Hospital and Catholic Healthcare West (CHW), eight local health and human-services agencies will receive \$134,000 in CHW Community Benefits Grants for 2010.

Receiving grants this year are Community Action Board of Santa Cruz County, Inc., Familia Center, Health Improvement Partnership of Santa Cruz County, Hospice of Santa Cruz County, Salud Para La Gente, Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Cruz County, United Way of Santa Cruz County and RotaCare of Santa Cruz.

“We at Dominican Hospital are honored to be in partnership with these helping organizations, whose scope of services spans infants to seniors,” said Martina O’Sullivan, Dominican Hospital’s director for community engagement. “These non-profit agencies have proven their excellence in the community and we are pleased to be connected through our shared missions. The CHW Community Grants Program is another opportunity for Dominican Hospital to continue its legacy of stewardship in Santa Cruz County.”

Recipients of the CHW Community Benefit Grants are chosen by the Dominican Community Advisors, local leaders from private and public organizations in Santa Cruz County. The Dominican Community Advisors meet regularly to determine how Dominican Hospital can best continue to focus on community benefit.

Over the past 18 years, area not-for-profit organizations have received Dominican/CHW awards totaling more than \$1 million. CHW, the largest not-for-profit health system in the West, is committed to promoting universal access to needed health care services and addressing the underlying socioeconomic causes of illness. Through its community grants program, CHW and its local hospitals partner with other nonprofit organizations that work to improve the health and quality of life of those they serve.

Last year, Dominican Hospital/CHW awarded nine local organizations with \$129,500.

2010 CHW Grants:

Community Action Board of Santa Cruz County, Inc.

Grant amount: \$16,000

This funding will help the Davenport Resource Service Center, a program of the Community Action Board, create health care access and improve wellness for Davenport/North Coast at-risk children, seniors and farm workers. Davenport Resource Service Center plans to launch a coordinated health and nutrition project through the establishment of a nutrition and fitness center in conjunction with the North Coast Teen Center. The program will also provide outreach, information, assessment and referral for treatment for farm workers to remedy causal factors (substandard housing, poor sanitation, limited resources and unhealthy food). It will also help in overcoming barriers to health prevention for seniors through bi-monthly programming at the senior potlucks in coordination with local providers.

Familia Center

Grant amount: \$17,000

Familia Center's funding will focus on diabetes education in Spanish for low-income Latinos in Northern Santa Cruz County. It will address the causes and consequences of diabetes; provide resources to help the low-income diabetics and their families; and offer nutrition classes in Spanish to help the diabetic and their families maintain healthy lifestyles and become familiar with the benefits of organically and locally grown produce.

Health Improvement Partnership of Santa Cruz County

Grant amount: \$25,000

Healthy Kids, a program of the Health Improvement Partnership, provides low-income children (ages 0-18) with health insurance coverage, thereby ensuring access to comprehensive medical, dental, vision and mental health services. Dominican Hospital recognizes the importance of children having a medical home in the prevention of illness and the promotion of wellness. Since 2004, over 10,000 local children have been enrolled in Healthy Families, Healthy Kids, or Medi-Cal.

Hospice of Santa Cruz County

Grant amount: \$16,000

Hospice provides a compassionate presence and professional expertise for individuals and their families confronted with the end of life and ensuing loss. "Transitions" is a social services program that addresses the psychosocial, emotional and practical needs of individuals and families confronted with life-limiting illness.

Salud Para La Gente

Grant amount: \$13,000

Salud Para La Gente is committed to providing a coordinated network of high quality, comprehensive, and cost effective health care services that is responsive to the evolving needs of the Monterey Bay's low-income communities.

Seven school-based clinics will provide no-cost medical, vision, dental and nutritional care for the children of PVUSD families

Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Cruz County

Grant amount: \$5,000

“Passion for Produce” is a collaborative effort between the Dominican Pediatric Clinic and Second Harvest Food Bank. New parents meet weekly at the clinic for instruction on how to prepare food to reap the highest nutritional value. After class, families receive a bag or box of fresh produce to use in preparing the provided recipes.

United Way of Santa Cruz County

Grant amount: \$17,000

The Go for Health! Program aims to increase healthy eating and regular physical activity among youngsters in Santa Cruz County. The 52-10 project is designed to provide a strategy for decreasing obesity (eat five fruits and vegetables a day, get no more than two hours of screen time get one hour of exercise, and drink zero sugar drinks). The message of 52-10 will be spread throughout the schools, civic and political leaders, the business and non-profit communities, and the public.

RotaCare of Santa Cruz

Grant amount: \$25,000

RotaCare Santa Cruz currently operates a free clinic for two hours one evening per week. Funding will provide regular classes or one-on-one intervention to educate patients with diabetes about the disease, how to control it, and the importance of those decisions in living a longer, healthier life. Free testing materials will be provided.