



The MetroHealth Foundation
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News Release

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MetroHealth Meets Kresge Challenge

Comprehensive Care Available for Seniors

(Cleveland, Ohio) – MetroHealth and its collaborative partners received a \$1 million grant from The Kresge Foundation, as part of its Challenge Grant Program, to support The Senior Health & Wellness Center at MetroHealth’s Old Brooklyn Campus. This achievement marks the conclusion of the capital campaign for The Senior Health & Wellness Center – the largest, single fundraising initiative in MetroHealth’s history.

The Kresge Foundation, a prestigious, national foundation, was impressed with the unique model of care available at The Senior Health & Wellness Center, located at the former Deaconess Hospital. In order to receive the grant, MetroHealth and its collaborative partners – the Benjamin Rose Institute, Concordia Care, and the Visiting Nurse Association’s Hospice and Palliative Care Partners of Ohio – were required to secure an additional \$3 million. This goal was achieved with nearly 1,050 philanthropic gifts from supportive individuals, foundations, and corporations.

“Your active commitment to providing access to quality care to those most in need in the city of Cleveland is clear and commendable,” said Rip Rapson, Kresge President and CEO in a 2007 letter noting Kresge trustees’ approval of the grant. “We are pleased to support your organization and the strategic opportunity presented by your capital campaign to expand your private donor base.”

The Senior Health & Wellness Center is the first of its kind in the country, providing all levels of senior health care in one location. The Center opened in October 2007 for primary and specialty care appointments. Today, skilled nursing care, medically supervised adult day care, and hospice services are also available at the site. Interest continues to grow as seniors realize the benefit of being able to, for example, see an ophthalmologist and a podiatrist at the same site on the same day.

“Our preliminary figures reflected the local demand for comprehensive senior services,” said James Campbell, M.D., chair, Department of Family Medicine, and director, Senior Health. “This grant and the support of the community helped us become fully operational. Now, we are better able to meet the needs of the rapidly growing senior population of Northeast Ohio.”

Through the first five months of 2009, the Center has realized nearly 5,200 primary care visits, more than 3,400 specialty care visits, and nearly 150 patients have received hospice services. Approximately 3,330 prescriptions are filled monthly at the Center’s onsite pharmacy.

The Kresge Foundation is a national, private foundation that seeks to influence the quality of life for future generations by creating access and opportunity in underserved communities, improving the health of low-income people, supporting artistic expressions, assisting in the revitalization of Detroit, and advancing methods for dealing with global climate change. In 2008, the foundation awarded 342 grants totaling \$181 million.

The MetroHealth System is one of the nation's largest and most successful public health care providers, offering health care for the most critically injured trauma victim to skilled nursing care for the chronically ill. Affiliated with Case Western Reserve University since 1914, MetroHealth continues its long-standing teaching reputation and research excellence, offering vital training and research opportunities for students and physicians. MetroHealth conducts cutting-edge research in biomedical sciences, particularly in the areas of cancer, heart, liver, and kidney research. For more information about The MetroHealth System, visit www.metrohealth.org.

The MetroHealth Foundation is instrumental in advancing the excellence and charitable mission of The MetroHealth System. The Foundation collaborates with The MetroHealth System in determining strategic objectives for growth and proactively pursues philanthropic support opportunities to secure the mission and vision. The MetroHealth Foundation funds programs and projects in patient care, scientific and clinical research, and medical education.