



The MetroHealth System
2500 MetroHealth Drive
Cleveland OH 44109-1998

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
March 5, 2008

Contact: Nancy Maurer
216-778-7048
or nmaurer@metrohealth.org

National Foundation Commits \$1 Million to Supporting New Health Care Model for Seniors

*Prestigious Kresge Challenge Grant launches final phase
of Senior Health & Wellness Center fundraising initiative*

(Cleveland, Ohio) – The Kresge Foundation has announced its intention to grant \$1 million to The Senior Health & Wellness Center at MetroHealth’s Old Brooklyn Campus through its Challenge Grant Program. The award comes as MetroHealth and its collaborative partners enter the final months of the largest, single fundraising initiative in the organization’s history – \$30 million in philanthropic and government support to create a new national model of caring for seniors.

“To be chosen as a recipient of this highly coveted challenge grant is a tremendous honor; it serves to reinforce the magnitude of what we are creating through The Senior Health & Wellness Center concept,” said James Campbell, M.D., MetroHealth’s chair of Family Medicine and director of Geriatric Health. “The response from the philanthropic community has been very strong so far and we’re confident that generosity will continue as we work to meet this challenge.”

In order to receive the \$1 million grant, MetroHealth and partners – the Benjamin Rose Institute, Concordia Care, and the Visiting Nurse Association’s Hospice and Palliative Care Partners of Ohio – must raise an additional \$3 million by October 1 to complete the capital phase of the Center’s fundraising initiative.

Several gifts and grants have already been received toward the challenge amount, including a pledge by National City to match new corporate funding. Eaton Corporation has answered that call with a \$100,000 gift. National City will match that gift with \$100,000. New foundation support paving the way to meet the Kresge challenge includes grants of \$150,000 from The Harold C. Schott Foundation and \$25,000 from The George W. Codrington Charitable Foundation.

The Kresge Foundation’s Challenge Grant Program supports nonprofit organizations that are working to address society’s pressing issues in six fields of interest: health, the environment, arts and culture, education, human services, and community development. Its goal is to strengthen leadership and financial support through challenge grants for capital projects, including the construction and renovation of facilities, the acquisition of property, and the purchase of equipment.

The Kresge Foundation is considered one of the most selective and prestigious foundations in the United States. The Senior Health & Wellness Center was the only million dollar award made in Ohio during the Foundation's December 2007 round of grants, which totaled \$49.8 million nationally.

The Senior Health & Wellness Center is the first of its kind in the country, providing for all levels of senior health care need in one location. The Center opened in October 2007 for primary and specialty care appointments and recorded more than 5,000 patient visits since then. Last weekend, 130 skilled nursing residents moved from the MetroHealth Center for Skilled Nursing Care to The Senior Health & Wellness Center. Medically supervised adult day care and hospice services will also be available early this year.

The \$65 million project is expected to generate \$260 million in economic benefit within its first five years of operation. According to a review by Deloitte Consulting, the project will reduce Medicaid and Medicare costs by \$55 million and will create 700 jobs generating \$22 million in state and local income taxes and provide 740,000 patient and family encounters.

The Kresge Foundation is a private, national foundation established in 1924 by Sebastian S. Kresge to promote human progress. In 2006 it awarded approximately \$150 million in grants to nonprofit organizations in the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, South Africa, and Mexico and had year-end assets of \$3.3 billion. The foundation is headquartered in Michigan.

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 supporting The MetroHealth System's mission of providing high quality health care regardless of ability to pay and its vision of being a national leader in preserving and promoting community health. 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.