

**June 24, 2011**

**Dear Friends:**

In January of this year we made the announcement that after eight years of being known as Illini Community Health Care Foundation, we would hereafter be named the **Health and Wellness Foundation of Pike County!** While our focus and commitment will remain dedicated to enhancing the health of Pike County, we believe our new name - Health and Wellness Foundation of Pike County (HWFPC) - more accurately reflects our intent to also address issues related to wellness as manifested by health promotion, disease prevention and support of positive lifestyle decisions.

We trust this new emphasis to be in direct alignment with the foundation's original purposes which are fundamental to achieving our overall mission of: strengthening existing health initiatives, fostering the development of new programs, and helping build the capacity of health and wellness organizations in Pike County.

The Foundation is deeply proud of the charitable work we have supported thus far. In fact, over \$500,000 in grant funding and program support has been distributed to not-for-profit Pike County organizations. Among the many milestones we celebrate since our inception in 2003 are:

- **Community Collaborations:** we have actively supported the Pike County Community Health Partnership (PCCHP) since its beginning and serve on the Steering Committee as a founding member and fiscal sponsor for the partnership. PCCHP has successfully competed for grant funding at the state and federal level enabling them to provide health programming not otherwise available.
- **Health Scholarships:** we recognize Pike County's youth as one of its greatest resources and established the John S. Teuscher Scholarship Program to assist graduating high schools seniors pursuing health occupations. \$4000 in scholarships are awarded annually from the Foundation.
- **Responsive Grant Programs:** we readily identify "access to health services" as paramount to ensuring quality health care for every person in Pike County. To that end, we have partnered with the Pike County Health Department to establish a safety net dental clinic to serve the more than 2000 Pike County children on Medicaid.

Our Board of Director's meet four times annually at minimum and those meetings always include assessment of Pike County's most pressing health needs and discussion of our ability to develop new initiatives which positively impact those concerns. Even in this economically challenging period, we remain optimistic in our capacity and commitment to enable impactful health programs and services. Charitable donations are critical to enabling a higher level of health in Pike County and we greatly appreciate the many individuals who support the work we pursue. We rely on those partnerships as integral to achieving our mission – thank you!

Our pledge to Pike County is to remain committed toward vigorously seeking more creative and impactful ways to enable every resident of Pike County to lead a healthier life with access to quality health services and programs. It has been a true privilege to work with you and I am excited to begin this new chapter in the foundation's life toward making Pike County a *healthier place for ALL to live!*

*Patricia M. McIntosh*

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Executive Director