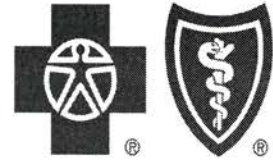


The Blue Foundation

FOR A HEALTHY FLORIDA



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 10, 2005

Contact: Susan B. Towler, APR
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Grant to Provide Medication Assistance to We Care Network Patients

Tallahassee, Fla. – The Blue Foundation for a Healthy Florida, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida's (BCBSF) philanthropic affiliate, recently awarded a \$10,000 grant for two years to the We Care Network, Capital Medical Society Foundation. Funding will be used to continue the Medications Assistance Program, which provides medications to uninsured and low-income patients. Dr. Jim Mahoney, president of the Capital Medical Society Foundation, accepted the grant. The founder of the We Care Network, Dr. James Stockwell, also attended the grant presentation.

Capital Medical Society physicians established the We Care Network in 1992 to create an organized approach to providing donated specialty care. In the first year, 43 physicians volunteered and donated \$23,229 in specialty medical care to Leon County. In 1995, the Network expanded to include Gadsden, Jefferson and Wakulla counties. Physicians, hospitals, laboratories, home health agencies and other health care providers have donated more than \$15 million in specialty medical care and more than 318 physicians volunteer in the network.

“This grant will help us continue our tradition of providing needed services to deserving clients in our four-county area,” said Robin McDougall, program coordinator. “We are very proud of the efficiency of the services provided through the network.”

The We Care Network grant is one of 10, totaling \$532,112, that The Blue Foundation will present this winter to nonprofit health clinics and community outreach programs across Florida. Through strategic grantmaking, The Blue Foundation supports programs that increase access to quality health-related services for uninsured and underserved Floridians. The Blue Foundation annually awards more than \$1 million in grants during two grant cycles. The next Request for Proposals deadline is March 18. For an application, please call 1-800-477-3736, ext. 63215.

The Blue Foundation for a Healthy Florida is a separate, philanthropic affiliate of BCBSF incorporated in the state of Florida. The Blue Foundation for a Healthy Florida, and its parent, BCBSF, are independent licensees of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association, an association of independent Blue Cross and Blue Shield companies. For more information on The Blue Foundation for a Healthy Florida, please visit its web site at www.bluefoundationfl.org.

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Grant to Help Women's Center Expand Mental-Health Services

Jacksonville, Fla. – The Blue Foundation for a Healthy Florida, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida's (BCBSF) philanthropic affiliate, recently awarded The Women's Center of Jacksonville (WCJ) a grant for \$88,512 to fund two part-time mental health therapist counselors.

"This grant will allow us to increase the capacity of our Mental Health Counseling Program by 25 percent from 250 clients now to over 300 by December 2006," said Gillian Ticehurst, director of development. "These are deserving women we will now be able to serve because of this generous gift."

In the mid-1990s, a group of women realized that women in Jacksonville did not have a central safe place to find solutions to their problems, so the group founded WCJ in 1995. WCJ initially offered only information and referral services. However, as women's needs became more apparent, funding increased and WCJ expanded its services. The center now focuses on three areas: counseling, community education and rape recovery. Last year, the Women's Center of Jacksonville provided services to about 7,500 women and their family members.

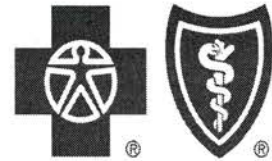
The Women's Center grant is one of 10, totaling \$532,112, that The Blue Foundation will present this winter to nonprofit health clinics and community outreach programs across Florida. Through strategic grantmaking, The Blue Foundation supports programs that increase access to quality health-related services for uninsured and underserved Floridians. The Blue Foundation annually awards up to \$1 million in grants during two grant cycles. The next Request for Proposals deadline is March 18. For an application, please call 1-800-477-3736, ext. 63215.

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Grant to Increase Funds for Mental-Health Counseling at United Cerebral Palsy's Pine Hills Center *UCP Celebrates 50 Years of Serving Central Florida*

Orlando, Fla. – The Blue Foundation for a Healthy Florida, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida's (BCBSF) philanthropic affiliate, recently awarded United Cerebral Palsy of Central Florida a grant for \$46,000 for two years to increase the availability of mental-health counseling for disabled children and their families. United Cerebral Palsy of Central Florida is celebrating 50 years of serving the needs of children with disabilities and their families in the metro Orlando area.

The grant will provide funding for a part-time counselor to offer an additional 60 counseling sessions each month at UCP's newest Center, located in Pine Hills — an identified low-income area with a per capita income of \$16,777. UCP's Supportive Counseling program addresses the challenges and issues facing families as they care for their children with special health needs. The program reflects a family-centered, community-based and coordinated service delivery system focused on special needs issues and mental health.

"Children with disabilities are much more likely to be neglected and abused than children without disabilities because of the greater physical, economic, emotional and social demands on their families," said Terri Chastain, director of development. "Our counseling program provides families the support and assistance needed to cope and to strengthen the parent-child relationship. We are very pleased that The Blue Foundation grant will help us reach more of these families in need."

The United Cerebral Palsy grant is one of 10, totaling \$532,112, that The Blue Foundation will present this winter to nonprofit health clinics and community outreach programs across Florida. Through strategic grantmaking, The Blue Foundation supports programs that increase access to quality health-related services for uninsured and underserved Floridians. The Blue Foundation annually awards up to \$1 million in grants during two grant cycles. The next Request for Proposals deadline is March 18. For an application, please call 1-800-477-3736, ext. 63215.

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