

Press Release: The MVMA Foundation Announces Contributions

Four Capital Region not-for-profit organizations will receive grants to promote health from the Mohawk Valley Medical Associates (MVMA) Foundation.

Mohawk Valley Medical Associates is an Independent Practice Association (IPA) formed in 1983 by Schenectady area physicians. The IPA has grown to over 2000 physicians since then, and has an exclusive arrangement with MVP Health Care to deliver care to its members. MVMA is the oldest and largest IPA affiliated with MVP, with approximately 100,000 MVP members in the 9-county geographic area.

The MVMA Board of Directors formed The MVMA Foundation in November 2003 as a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) private foundation to benefit charitable organizations that engage in the promotion of health either by delivering health care services or by providing public education within the MVMA geographic community. The organization's specific and primary purpose is to promote the health of individuals living within Schenectady, Saratoga, Fulton, Montgomery, Warren, Washington, Albany, Rensselaer and Schoharie counties. MVMA is pleased to announce its first contributions to the following charitable organizations:

Cornell Cooperative Extension Association of Schenectady County - \$2500 for several Sites of Promise to use a new booklet called *Living Healthy* to motivate children to participate in learning about their health. The final booklet, which will be developed through illustrations made by 450 children with prizes awarded for the illustrations selected, will be published and distributed throughout the schools in Schenectady as part of the health education program on obesity and Type 2 diabetes.

Gilda's Club Capital Region New York - \$5000 to support the purchase of computer equipment and resource supplies for the new Resource Library of the Capital Region Gilda's Clubhouse, currently under renovation. This chapter of Gilda's Club WorldWide serves the residents of 11 Capital District counties who are cancer survivors, as well as their families and friends. A typical Clubhouse has 500 members in year one.

Schenectady Day Nursery - \$2500 for Medication Administration Training, CPR and First Aid Education for its nursery teachers and teacher aides, for the benefit of 90 enrolled children in the city of Schenectady.

Wildwood Foundation - \$5000 for a new health education program to target the health problems most often faced by developmentally disabled individuals. Topics to be covered include heart health, diabetes prevention, obesity prevention, food safety, communicable disease prevention, and exercise education. A trainer's guide will be developed to help others working with the disabled to provide health education. Wildwood Programs serves the 12-county region of the Capital District, serving 800 people and family members.

The MVMA Foundation will make contributions to tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organizations that are not private foundations. Decisions are based on the merits of the projects submitted. An application form, as well as information about MVMA, can be found online at www.mvma.net.