

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHI St. Joseph's Health now taking scholarship applications

PARK RAPIDS, MN (**FEB. 16, 2015**) –Maintaining and recruiting a professional medical workforce is a high priority at CHI St. Joseph's Health. Its scholarship program enhances efforts to remain vital as a quality healthcare facility now and in the future.

Area graduating seniors and higher education students (second year and beyond) who are considering a healthcare career, especially those with a strong desire to return to a rural healthcare facility, are encouraged to apply for scholarships provided through CHI St. Joseph's Health Foundation.

Several scholarship options are available.

Graduating high school seniors from the communities of Park Rapids, Nevis, Walker-Hackensack-Akeley, Laporte, Menahga and Sebeka can apply for CHI St. Joseph's Health \$1,000 scholarship and/or the CHI St. Joseph's Health/Brian Koria \$750 scholarship. One or more awards will be made in these categories.

One, \$500 CHI St. Joseph's Health/Laurie Hohnstadt scholarship is available to a graduating Park Rapids school district high school senior pursuing a degree as a registered nurse.

Area graduates from all area schools listed above entering their second year or beyond of post-secondary education are encouraged to apply for CHI St. Joseph's Health 2^{nd} Year and Beyond \$1,000 scholarship to be awarded to one or more students.

Application forms are available through your high school guidance counselor or by downloading from CHI St. Joseph's Health website at www.sjahs.org. Applications explain eligibility requirements, application requirements and selection process.

All applications must be postmarked and received by Friday, April 10. Return your application to Sonja Day, CHI St. Joseph's Health Scholarship Committee Chair at CHI St. Joseph's Health, 600 Pleasant Avenue, Park Rapids, MN 56470.

CHI St. Joseph's Health scholarships are funded, in part, through generous donations from the community, CHI St. Joseph's Health employees, memorial scholarship funds from family and friends of Laurie Hohnstadt and Brian Koria and with proceeds from CHI St. Joseph's Health annual Foundation Golf Benefit.

The public is invited to take part in the 14th Annual Foundation Golf Benefit at Blueberry Pines Golf Club in Menahga on Wednesday, May 27. Individuals and businesses can get involved or donate a gift in kind. Form a team, come and play, sponsor a hole, volunteer and/or purchase ball-drop tickets in advance of the event.

Proceeds from the golf benefit support CHI St. Joseph's Health Hospice program services to clients and their families facing end-of-life issues and CHI St. Joseph's Health Foundation.

To sign up or to learn more, please call Sonja Day, CHI St. Joseph's Health Foundation Manager, at 218.616.3383.

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About CHI St. Joseph's Health

CHI St. Joseph's Health is a 25-bed critical access hospital serving communities in Hubbard, Becker, Cass and Wadena Counties since 1946. In recent years, CHI St. Joseph's Health's award-winning teams took several national honors including: The Joint Commission Top Performer on Key Quality Measures in surgery: Top 100 Critical Access Hospital, HealthStrong; WomenCertified's America's Best Hospitals Women's Choice Award in obstetrics; and the Studer Group Fire Starter Healthcare Organization of the Month among other national and state recognitions.

About CHI

Catholic Health Initiatives, one of the nation's largest health systems, was formed in 1996 to strengthen the Catholic health ministry for the future. With deep roots in the tradition of expressing Christ's love by caring for those in need, Catholic Health Initiatives serves more than four million people each year through acute care hospitals; long-term care, assisted and residential-living facilities; community-based health services; home care; research and development; and reference laboratory services.

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