

News Release from Sunnyside Community Hospital

For more information contact:
Tom Lathen – 847-1624 (office)
840-4136 (cell)
837-5155 (home)

May 24, 2011

Sunnyside Community Hospital and Clinics today mailed donations totaling \$1,400 to seven area high school graduating classes.

The program to honor high school graduating classes has been sponsored by the hospital for the past sixteen years.

“We want to recognize the significant achievement of high school graduation,” said CEO Jon Smiley. “We remind the graduates it is the beginning of their life journey, and we encourage them to keep looking forward toward more education, military service, or entry into the workforce.”

The students are told the donations have no strings according to Smiley. “But we do encourage them to celebrate graduation in an alcohol free environment, and use the donation to benefit as many members of the graduating class as possible,” Smiley said.

The seven schools receiving checks are: Sunnyside, Sunnyside Christian, Grandview, Granger, Mabton, Bickleton and Wahluke (Mattawa).

“It has been heartening over the years to hear what has been done with these donations,” Smiley said. “Seniors have used the money to purchase gifts to give back to their schools, they have helped to fund senior trips, and decorate their auditoriums for graduation.”

“It is interesting to think that many of this year’s seniors were toddlers when we began this program in 1995,” Smiley said. “We believe it shows the communities we serve that we are committed to supporting the success of our young people around the Valley.”