

# Press Release

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## **Foundation Awards More Than \$26,000 to Five Local Organizations**

Titusville, FL (August 18, 2005) – Jess Parrish Medical Foundation (JPMF) recently awarded a \$10,000 grant to Brevard Community College (BCC) to be used toward a collaborative project with Parrish Medical Center (PMC) that will reopen a childcare facility at the Titusville BCC campus. This facility will be operated by the BCC Child Development Department and will be used by PMC employees and BCC students who currently do not have a daycare alternative close to work or school. Children ages one through five will be eligible for this facility and it is expected the center will be opened in the fall of 2005.

“We are very excited about this collaborative effort and glad to provide support to such a worthwhile cause that helps the caregivers and students in our area,” says J. J. Parrish III, chairman of JPMF’s Grants Committee and immediate past president who is also treasurer of the PMC Board of Directors. “Child care has been an issue for employees at PMC and they have requested assistance from their employer in this area that we will now be able to accommodate,” added Roberta Chaildin, PMC Human Resources manager.

In addition to the BCC start up grant, JPMF awarded four other grants to further health care initiatives in North Brevard:

Parrish Medical Center’s Diabetes Education Program was presented a check for \$6,500. These funds will be used for persons enrolled in the program who do not have funds to cover the cost of essential diabetic needs, such as monitor kits, strips, supplies, etc., and are often not covered by health insurance programs.

Circle of Care’s VIP Program – violence, intervention and prevention – received \$5,760 for one classroom for services to children and their families, specifically in the North Brevard County area. The VIP program builds resilience as well as lowers the at-risk behaviors of children and their families. Each

classroom will receive 25 lessons, 12 hours of teacher consultation, 12 hours of parent consultation and training to be done at the site and/or the home, 25 hours of pre- and post-testing, including written evaluations demonstrating each child's outcomes. This program provides early intervention and prevention regarding violence to children aged three to five who participate in childcare programs.

B.E.T.A. of Titusville was awarded a \$2,000 grant for the "Girls Are Great" program, which celebrates and educates girls nine to 12 on growing up and understanding their changing bodies. Now in its eleventh year, the program offers emotional bonding for preteens and an accompanying adult through a presentation on puberty, parenting sessions on dealing with adolescent sexuality, a "chat room" with high school students and more.

The Titusville Police Athletic League (PAL) was granted \$2,000 to purchase an automated external defibrillator (AED) for the Gibson Gym in Titusville, which is operated by the Titusville PAL.

JPMF awards small grants on a quarterly basis to support organizations or programs in North Brevard that have a health, wellness or safety emphasis consistent with the mission of Parrish Medical Center and Jess Parrish Medical Foundation.

Jess Parrish Medical Foundation is the philanthropic arm of Parrish Medical Center and was established to motivate and inspire philanthropy that will enhance the quality of life of the citizens of North Brevard through excellent healthcare and healing services. For more information about grants from the Jess Parrish Medical Foundation, call 269-4066.

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#### **PHOTO CUTLINE:**

A check for \$10,000 was presented to Katherine Cobb, J.D., (second from right) provost of BCC Titusville and Virtual Campus. Presenting the check are, from the left, J.J. Parrish III, chairman of the grants committee and immediate past JPMF chairman, Roberta Chaildin, PMC Human Resources manager; Dr. Cobb; and Laurie Smirl, executive director of the JPMF.