



**Saint Anthony
Hospital**

Caring for the community

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**Chicago foundations pioneered to fund new hospital-based workforce
initiative that transforms lives;
City of Chicago now on board as funder**

Saint Anthony Hospital is mentor hospital for all

(CHICAGO March 24, 2010) Addressing the need for an increasingly skilled workforce in Chicago's healthcare industry — as well as the demand for more and better jobs for Chicagoans — Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley recently announced the launch of an innovative program, "Building a Career Ladder in Healthcare" to 13 Chicago-area hospitals.

Known as School at Work, the initiative is funded by: the Chicago Department of Community Development; SERCO, Inc. (specifically, Central States SER); and three Chicago foundations — Eleanor Foundation; the Steans Family Foundation; and the Saint Anthony Hospital Foundation. The new citywide program replicates a model launched at Saint Anthony Hospital in 2008 with seed funding from the three foundations.

The original funding for School at Work in 2009) was \$130,336. The Steans Family Foundation and the Eleanor Foundation each contributed approximately \$36,000 (for a total of \$72,000-plus). During that same time period, Saint Anthony Hospital Foundation contributed \$57,990.

This year, the City of Chicago is funding the program (for all 13 hospitals) at a level of \$176, 544. Again this year, The Steans Family Foundation and the Eleanor Foundation are each contributing about \$36,000 for their part in funding Saint Anthony Hospital's program. The hospital's contribution is \$51,295.

The City of Chicago began funding the program in September 2009 soon after the community hospital successfully "graduated" its first class of 18 students last August. Because of its leadership and track record, Saint Anthony Hospital has been selected as the mentor organization for Chicago hospitals now participating in the program.

"Public-private partnerships like this that include employers are vital to expanding our Eleanor Network, which provides single working moms the services they need to advance their careers and achieve economic security," said Rosanna A. Márquez, President and CEO of the Eleanor Foundation.

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“Employers such as Saint Anthony Hospital are one of North Lawndale’s assets. We are pleased to create opportunities for their associates to advance in the workplace through our funding partnership with the Eleanor Foundation,” said Reginald Jones, Executive Director of the Steans Family Foundation.

“Building a Career Ladder in Healthcare” is a development program for entry-level workers in the healthcare industry. The two-course, 32-week program — at no cost to employees — features on-site instruction offered before and after work. The goal: to help employees advance in their career paths, prepare for college and maximize their workplace potential. (Every student who completed the first session of School at Work at Saint Anthony Hospital was admitted to City of Chicago’s Wilbur Wright College.)

Jazette L. Moffet, an associate in the Medical Collections Department at Saint Anthony Hospital and a 2009 *School at Work* graduate, believes that this educational experience has not only transformed her career goals; it’s totally altered her approach to every aspect of her being. The 40-year-old single mother of two children says she’s spent her life “not finishing anything. I’d always had goals, but because of financial struggles, childcare challenges and other issues, I’d never been able to pursue my dream of going to college. Now I am on my way.” She describes *School at Work* as “a godsend that offers the support I’ve always needed.” Thanks in part to his mom’s commitment, Jazette’s 23-year-old son recently returned to college. “He is very proud of me,” she smiles.

Another powerful component of the School at Work curriculum is the inclusion of a financial skills course developed by the Eleanor Foundation with another of its network members, Heartland Alliance. It teaches participants essential skills— such how to save money, how to learn (and improve upon) your credit score and much more. This new fiscal knowledge is inspiring Jazette, who will soon begin saving towards the purchase of a home.

The objectives of *School at Work* mirror the missions of the Eleanor and Steans foundations, respectively. The Eleanor Foundation is Chicago’s only public grant-making fund exclusively focused on single working women determined to be economically independence. It is building Chicago’s first citywide network of services—the Eleanor Network, which provides career-education, childcare, housing and credit clean up, to help women achieve economic security. The Steans Foundation dedicates, time, money and skills to invigorate North Lawndale, a revitalizing neighborhood on Chicago’s West Side and close to Saint Anthony Hospital. Established in 1986, the Steans Family Foundation has a long-term commitment to the community, partnering with a wide variety of local institutions and foundations to create opportunities for North Lawndale residents and their families.

“As a community hospital, we are excited to be working with these progressive foundations, Mayor

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Chicago Foundations / Add Two

Daley and the City of Chicago to create more opportunities for high-quality jobs by leading this initiative,” said Guy A. Medaglia, President and CEO of Saint Anthony Hospital. “By providing our associates with no-cost educational opportunities, we are helping them to broaden their skill sets. Also, their quality of life will be improved because they’ll be better able to support their families, enhancing the well being of the community overall.



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Pamela Jones, Workforce Development Director, Human Resources Department, Saint Anthony Hospital, said most of the hospital's *School at Work* participants initially work in environmental, dietary and foodservice areas. After successfully completing their training, many become eligible for positions in allied health service positions, such as surgical or radiology technology. Several also are employed in nursing at the basic level of Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA). "They need encouragement, support and education to progress to the next level, and we provide it," says Jones.

NOTE: Hospitals participating in *School at Work* include: Advocate South Suburban, Children's Memorial Medical Center; Mercy Hospital and Medical Center; Norwegian-American Hospital; Our Lady of the Resurrection; Resurrection Medical Center; Roseland Community Hospital; Sinai Health System; Saint James Hospital and Health Centers, South Shore Hospital; Swedish Covenant Hospital; and University of Chicago Medical Center.

Caption: At the kickoff for the citywide launch of *School at Work*, Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley talks with representatives of two of the foundations that were the driving force behind the innovative program in Chicago. They are Rosanna A. Márquez, President and CEO of the Eleanor Foundation, and Alison Janus, Program Officer, Steans Family Foundation. (Pamela Jones, Workforce Development Director, Human Resources Department, Saint Anthony Hospital, is standing behind Márquez and Janus.)

For more than 110 years, physicians and staff of Saint Anthony Hospital have provided medical care, social services, and community outreach programs to Chicago's underserved communities. Saint Anthony today provides a full continuum of care—acute, medical, primary, pediatric and surgical — to meet the needs of the communities and the patients it serves.