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SoutheastHEALTH Honors Patient Care Technician with Sunshine Award

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In recognition of giving his best to patients, Tyler Hale, a Patient Care Technician (PCT) on Southeast Hospital's Cardiothoracic Unit, was honored as the first recipient of the Sunshine Award. This award, presented by Chief Nursing Officer Gina Leath, celebrates the extraordinary skills and compassionate care given by PCTs every day.

Hale's Sunshine Award nomination cited his amazing work ethic and willingness to help both patients and staff. His nomination notes that "Tyler never complains, puts in 100 percent and takes initiatives to accomplish tasks and help staff. When some of our nurses were pulled to another floor, they needed help. Tyler, with permission, left our floor to go help the others, again, without complaint. He is knowledgeable, compassionate and so hard working. This fella gives wonderful feedback where needed, and has great advice for co-workers. He definitely has made a difference in the attitude of our unit – that alone is worth gold!"

About SoutheastHEALTH

At SoutheastHEALTH, the region's premier healthcare system in southeast Missouri, our patients receive excellent care of the highest clinical quality, close to home. Within our network are more than 50 care locations in 13 communities, including hospitals, primary and specialty care clinics representing over 30 clinical specialties and extending care for patients in a four-state area. Learn more at SEhealth.org.

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SoutheastHEALTH Opens New Madrid Clinic

NOVEMBER 14TH 2019 BY DEE LOFLIN

SoutheastHEALTH Opens New Madrid Clinic

SoutheastHEALTH recently celebrated the opening of a new Primary Care clinic in New Madrid with an open house and ribbon cutting. The clinic, staffed by Board-Certified Family Nurse Practitioner Sierra Holiman, APRN, offers healthcare services for children and adults.

The newly-constructed facility on U.S. Highway 61 in New Madrid includes four patient exam rooms and on-site lab services. Both appointments and walk-ins are welcome. With its newest clinic location, SoutheastHEALTH will offer excellent care in a location convenient for the growing number of First Option clients in the New Madrid area. First Option is a health plan established by SoutheastHEALTH to provide self-insured employers of all sizes a cost savings health benefit solution.

SoutheastHEALTH President and CEO Ken Bateman said the clinic "represents the visible beginning of a new milestone in patient care delivery for southeast Missouri." He acknowledged New Madrid as a "progressive community that recognizes the unique role SoutheastHEALTH plays in providing high quality healthcare to the residents of New Madrid and surrounding communities."

The clinic, he added, "will meet the growing healthcare needs of the New Madrid area population, close to home."

SoutheastHEALTH also operates primary care and/or pediatrics clinics in the Missouri communities of Cape Girardeau, Perryville, Jackson, Dexter, Bloomfield, Poplar Bluff, Sikeston, Bernie and Malden.

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SoutheastHEALTH Ambassadors Award Regional Organizations AEDs

NOVEMBER 05TH 2019 BY DEE LOFLIN

SoutheastHEALTH Ambassadors Award Regional Organizations AEDs

There are more than 350,000 out-of-hospital cardiac arrests annually in the U.S., and nearly 90 percent of them are fatal. The SoutheastHEALTH Ambassadors, an arm of the

SoutheastHEALTH Foundation, are working to lessen that frightening statistic in our region.

Once again this year, the Ambassadors have purchased automated external defibrillators (AED), the only effective treatment for restoring a regular heart rhythm during a sudden cardiac arrest. The devices were recently awarded to 10 community organizations through an application/greatest need process. Money for the AEDs was raised through Ambassador fundraising efforts such as a red wine and chocolate pairing.

Ambassadors President Tyler Cuba said that heart health awareness and being proactive guided the decision three years ago to initiate the AED distribution program. He noted that groups receiving the AEDs will be trained on their use. "Its use is easily taught to people with no medical background. In a case of sudden cardiac arrest, using CPR and a defibrillator within five minutes equates to a survival rate of 50 percent. That truly is a lifesaving difference."

AED recipients were the Cairo, IL, Fire Department; Cape Girardeau Elks Lodge; Christ Church of the Heartland in Cape Girardeau; Safe House for Women, Cape Girardeau; Grace Lutheran Church, Uniontown; Missouri Department of Probation and Parole, Cape Girardeau; Chaffee Fire Department; First General Baptist Church, Cape Girardeau; Emanuel United Church of Christ, Jackson; and Risen Church, Dexter.

To apply for an AED, visit https://www.sehealth.org/foundation/aed-request. Additional AEDs will be awarded in the fall of 2020. Applications are accepted now through May 31, 2020.

Pictured: Ten area organizations were awarded automated external defibrillators (AED) by the SoutheastHEALTH Foundation Ambassadors through an application/greatest need process. Representatives of those organizations along with SoutheastHEALTH representatives, are shown here.

About SoutheastHEALTH Foundation

SoutheastHEALTH Foundation, Inc. was organized in 1977 as an independent 501 (c)3 nonprofit entity to ensure the future of healthcare in our region. The Foundation's Board of Directors is made up of individuals and volunteers from all segments of our service area. The Board oversees fund-raising projects and manages the allocation of funds in an effort to enhance service to our community.

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Stoddard County Public Health Center Offers Flu Shots

NOVEMBER 04TH 2019 BY DEE LOFLIN

Stoddard County Public Health Center Offers Flu Shots

Stoddard County, Missouri - The Stoddard Public Health Center will offer high dose vaccines for adults 65 and older and quadrivalent flu vaccines for those 64 and under.

Flu shots will be given on a walk-in basis from 8 a.m. - noon and 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. Monday - Friday.

Proof of Medicare, Medicaid or insurance must be provided.

Flu shots are \$25 for those without insurance.

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One of Only 15 in the Nation, Southeast Hospital Earns Prestigious Cardiac Certification

OCTOBER 24TH 2019 BY DEE LOFLIN

One of Only 15 in the Nation, Southeast Hospital Earns Prestigious Cardiac Certification

Southeast Hospital, flagship of the SoutheastHEALTH system of care, has received Comprehensive Cardiac Center (CCC) Certification, earned by the Joint Commission's Accreditation and Certification program and in collaboration with the American Heart Association's Heart-Check process. The certification recognizes Southeast's heart program for its comprehensive approach to care and commitment to excellence.

The certification is granted through a rigorous, in-depth evaluation of patient-centered care. Southeast Hospital is one of only 15 hospitals in the nation and the smallest community hospital to achieve this recognition to date.

Dr. Maria Sudak, Chief Operating Officer for SoutheastHEALTH said in order to obtain CCC Certification, the organization was required to show excellence and exceed quality measurements in at least seven of the following areas:

- *Coronary Artery Bypass
- *Heart Failure
- *Cardiac Arrest/Resuscitation
- *Cardiac Rehabilitation
- *Diagnostic Cardiac Catheterization Procedure
- *Valve Replacement/Repair
- *Percutaneous Coronary Intervention
- *Arrhythmia Management
- *Acute Myocardial Infarction (heart attack).

"To be singled out as one of the nation's top centers for cardiac care required a spirit of commitment and teamwork across the entire staff," Sudak said. "Earning this honor required a great deal of work, commitment and expertise on our part, and it was the right thing to do for our patients. They expect, and deserve, exceptional care."

Sudak added that Southeast's commitment to quality is of the utmost importance. "We strive to provide high quality care as we serve our communities. We monitor our quality and measure outcomes, and we work continuously to improve."

"The Joint Commission's Comprehensive Cardiac Center Certification recognizes health care organizations committed to fostering continuous quality improvement in patient safety and quality of care," says Mark Pelletier, RN, MS, chief operating officer, Accreditation and Certification Operations, and chief nursing executive, The Joint Commission. "We commend SoutheastHEALTH for using certification to reduce variation in its clinical processes and to strengthen its program structure and management framework for cardiac patients."

"We congratulate SoutheastHEALTH for this outstanding achievement," says Nancy Brown, chief executive officer, the American Heart Association. "This certification reflects its commitment to providing the highest quality of care for cardiac patients."

Southeast Hospital has a long history of commitment to providing excellent cardiac care. Southeast established the first open heart surgery program in downstate Missouri in 1983. Since then, Southeast has been a pioneer in bringing new cardiac lifesaving technologies and procedures to the region. These patient-centered investments recently included a new, hybrid operating suite with technology to advance treatment options for our region's critically ill heart patients, a new Heart and Vascular Pavilion designed for patient and family comfort and introducing to the region transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR), a minimally invasive approach to replacement of a narrowed aortic valve, and transcatheter mitral valve repair (TMVR) procedure which allows mitral regurgitation patients to be treated without invasive open heart surgery.

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