

Press Release

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For Immediate Release

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The Kresge Foundation Awards \$150,000 Hospice of Muskegon-Oceana Meets the Challenge

Muskegon, MI – On February 3, 2006, Hospice of Muskegon-Oceana received a \$150,000 grant from The Kresge Foundation marking the successful completion of the \$3.7 million capital campaign to build a hospice residence. The challenge grant from The Kresge Foundation had been awarded less than a year ago, contingent upon raising the remaining \$436,935 to complete the campaign by January 1, 2006. Through the generosity and encouragement of many, the challenge was met, successfully bringing \$150,000 in outside resources to the community.

The campaign to support the construction of the Leila and Cyrus Poppen Hospice Residence in Fruitport Township was launched under the leadership of Rick Amidon, President of Baker College of Muskegon, in late 2003. Sherman Poppen and Leila Reynolds provided key support with the lead gift in honor of their parents, for whom the facility is named. Capital campaign volunteers developed a broad base of support, soliciting gifts from over 600 donors. Other major donors include the family of Raymond Stowers and the Hines Corporation.

In announcing the successful completion of the capital campaign and receipt of the \$150,000 Kresge grant, Mary Anne Gorman, Executive Director, said, “When we received word of the Kresge Challenge Grant in March 2005, we embraced the Foundation’s belief that successfully meeting the challenge would leave us a stronger organization., with an energized board and broader donor base. It has accomplished that goal and much more. We have gained scores of new friends who will continue to support our mission, vision and plans for the future.”

The Leila and Cyrus Poppen Hospice Residence, completed in August 2005 and open to the public in September, began caring for patients in October. A family member recently observed, “Dreams do come true. Poppen House is everything and more. The building is wonderful and the staff is the heart and soul that makes this place all it can possibly be. I am so grateful the dream was dreamt and you made it a reality.”