



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

July 7, 2011

For more information contact:

Kelly Barbeau,
St. Elizabeth's Hospital Marketing Specialist
618-234-2120, x1270

\$16,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED TO AREA HEALTH CARE STUDENTS BY ST. ELIZABETH'S HOSPITAL AUXILIARY

Belleville - St. Elizabeth's Hospital Auxiliary recently announced the 2011 recipients of their yearly scholarship for students pursuing careers in health care. Eight \$2,000 scholarships were awarded at a special ceremony on Wednesday, July 6th.

The St. Elizabeth's Auxiliary Scholarships are granted yearly to qualified candidates who are pursuing a career in healthcare and plan to enter or are already attending an accredited college or university. Recipients agree to maintain a passing grade average and to submit their transcripts to the Scholarship Committee at the conclusion of each term.

The selection process this year proved to be rather challenging to the 5 person Auxiliary committee since so many of the applicants were very highly qualified. "This year's competition was fierce. The committee wished we could have awarded several more scholarships to applicants since so many were not only outstanding students but heavily involved in service activities in their community. "They were all exceptional" said Auxiliary Scholarship Committee Chairperson Richard DeBoe, "It was a very difficult decision."

The 2011 recipients include:

- **Eddie Akers**, graduated from Edwardsville Senior High School and plans to attend the University of Chicago. Eddie plans to earn a Pre-Med (Biology) degree then continue with his schooling at the Pritzker School of Medicine at the University of Chicago. He plans to become a Physician of Sports Medicine.

- **Molly Etling**, of Freeburg, attends the University of Illinois where she will be a sophomore in the fall of 2011. She is majoring in Molecular and Cellular Biology and pre-medicine. When she isn't away at school Molly volunteers at St. Elizabeth's Hospital. She ultimately aspires to become a pediatrician.

- **Samantha Hall**, of Swansea, recently graduated from Belleville West High School and will be attending the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign. She plans to major in Biology. She plans to become a pediatrician or a surgeon.

- **Nicholas Popp**, of Smithton, will be a sophomore at the University of Chicago where he is working toward a BS in Biochemistry and a BA in Biology-Genetics. Nick's goal is to graduate and conduct gene therapy research as a doctor of hematology. By achieving his degree he hopes to treat and help children with bleeding disorders.

- **Maggie Stock**, of Millstadt, graduated from Belleville West and will be attending St. Louis University in the fall. She will be in pre-med and will be working toward a degree in Biology. She aspires to become a medical doctor and have a positive impact on people's lives.

- **Bernadette Wharton**, of Belleville, is a graduate of Rosati-Kain High School and will be entering Harvard University in Cambridge, MA in the fall. Bernadette will be studying Neuroscience and will plan to become a pediatric neurologist upon completing her studies.

- **Lindsey Wiegmann**, of Breese, will attend the St. Louis College of Pharmacy this fall. The pharmacy program consists of two years of pre-pharmacy and four years of professional schooling. Lindsey plans to obtain a Doctor of Pharmacy degree in order to practice as a pediatric clinical pharmacist.

- **Julie Yates**, of Waterloo, graduated from Gibault Catholic High School. Julia has been accepted into the doctorate of physical therapy program at Maryville University and plans to become a physical therapist.

St. Elizabeth's Hospital Auxiliary was created in 1935 to support St. Elizabeth's Hospital, its numerous programs and partnering organizations. Currently consisting of over 130 members, the Auxilians promote the hospital within the community and raise scholarship funds by planning special events and fundraisers throughout the year. To date,

approximately \$216,000 has been awarded to area healthcare students since 1987.

For more information on the Auxiliary Scholarships call Carol at 618.234.2120, ext.

1280.

###

Photo attached separately. Cutline as follows:

St. Elizabeth's Hospital 2011 Auxiliary Scholarship winners include (bottom row, from left) Maggie Stock, Julia Yates and Molly Etling. In front row, Samantha Hall, Eddie Akers and Lyndsey Wiegmann. Other recipients not pictured are Bernadette Wharton and Nicholas Popp.

About Hospital Sisters Health System

Hospital Sisters Health System is a Roman Catholic health care mission founded to continue the healing ministry of Jesus Christ. Sponsored by the Hospital Sisters of St. Francis, HSHS provides state-of-the-art health care framed in traditional values taught by St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi. It is dedicated to serving all people, including the poor and the needy, at each of its 13 Local Systems and physician practices in Illinois (Belleville, Breese, Decatur, Effingham, Highland, Litchfield, Springfield and Streator) and Wisconsin (Chippewa Falls, Eau Claire, Sheboygan and two in Green Bay). For more information about HSHS, visit www.hshs.org.