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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS  
ANNOUNCES KICK-OFF OF HAWTHORN MEDICAL CHARITABLE FUND**

NEW BEDFORD, MA (7.19.11) - - The Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts is pleased to announce that the Hawthorn Medical Charitable Fund of Hawthorn Medical Associates is awarding a total of \$20,000 in grants in its first cycle of funding.

“Hawthorn Medical Associates is recognized throughout the region as a generous community benefactor through its scholarship program and active support of a large number of local organizations,” said Community Foundation President Craig J. Dutra. “The availability of these grants is the result of the creation of a \$500,000 endowment by Hawthorn Medical Associates at the Community Foundation. The Hawthorn Medical Charitable Fund raises the organization’s philanthropy to another level of giving.”

At a press conference today, James Gularek, CEO of Hawthorn Medical Associates, announced that the Fund is awarding four \$5,000 grants this year to organizations that demonstrate community need in several areas. “In support of our mission to serve the health needs of our community, we are reaching out to organizations and groups that serve victims of domestic violence, child abuse and homelessness as well as those involved in veterans’ causes and the operation of soup kitchens.”

Grants will be for a 12-month period. The Community Foundation will review the applications and make recommendations to the Hawthorn Medical advisory board for award recipients. Applicants can download the RFP from the CFSEMA website at [www.cfsema.org](http://www.cfsema.org) for deadlines and other details about the application process.

“Each day, Hawthorn Medical Associates is involved in our community through the many physicians and staff who provide the finest medical care to New Bedford area families. Hawthorn Medical Associates is known for giving back to the people it serves. On behalf of the City of New Bedford, I greatly appreciate Hawthorn Medical Associates sharing its resources to establish a charitable fund for the benefit of improving the quality of life of the citizens in our region,” said New Bedford Mayor Scott W. Lang.

Established in 1970, Hawthorn Medical is the largest multi-specialty medical group practice in the New Bedford area and an affiliate of Partners Community Healthcare, Inc. Hawthorn Medical has state-of-the-

art medical facilities, many of the area's finest physicians, and skilled professional and support staff that provide high-quality medical care to over 138,000 patients each year. To learn more about Hawthorn Medical, visit [www.hawthornmed.com](http://www.hawthornmed.com).

The Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts is a tax-exempt public charity founded in 1995 to improve the quality of life in Southeastern Massachusetts by facilitating, advising, convening and/or responding to critical community issues. Over the past five years, CFSEMA has distributed more than \$8 million in grants and scholarships from 144 funds to support youth programs, expand economic opportunities, increase educational attainment, promote sustainability, invest in the creative economy and, through the Women's Fund, improve the economic status of women and girls. For more information, visit [www.cfsema.org](http://www.cfsema.org).

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