

# P R E S S   R E L E A S E

JUNE 18, 2009



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HEALTH SYSTEM

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## HOSPITAL RECEIVES DAVID HENDERSHOT RURAL HEALTH PROMOTION AWARD FROM OHIO HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION

Named for the late Field Services Director David Hendershot, this award recognizes a small or rural Ohio hospital for providing an exemplary program or service to advance health and wellness.

Joint Township District Memorial Hospital has implemented a variety of programs to advance its goal of providing front line services in the fight against childhood obesity, chronic disease processes and cancer due to unhealthy lifestyles. The hospital's Grand Health Challenge, recipient of the American Heart Association's Community Innovation Award, involved soliciting members of the community to form teams to compete to lose the highest percentage of body weight and incorporate a healthier lifestyle. After three years, the community has lost in excess of 10,000 pounds. Another program, Road to Fitness, is based on a point system for participation in community 5K and 10K bike events and fitness classes. Points are awarded for each event and participants are honored in an awards ceremony. The hospital partners with local YMCAs, newspapers, schools and chambers of commerce to offer services, including monthly health screenings, education programs and community health fairs.

According to Anne Larger, Community Outreach Coordinator, "It was a privilege to accept this prestigious award. This type of award is only possible when you have the support of a very dedicated staff."

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