

## **Dr. David Filipi Receives Harold E. Williamson Volunteer Award**

While politicians are busy traveling the country *talking* about how they will fix health care, physicians like Dr. David Filipi of Omaha are *working* within our “broken” system—bringing health care to those who need it most.

Dr. Filipi has been practicing family medicine in Omaha for more than 30 years. During this time, he has served numerous organizations. His lifetime of contributions and recent involvement in the Hope Medical Outreach Coalition (Hope) prompted Metro Omaha Medical Society (MOMS) President Harris A. Frankel, M.D. to nominate him for COPIC’s volunteer physician award.

Hope supports uninsured or underinsured patients by coordinating specialty services with volunteer physicians, dental providers, hospitals, and health systems. Hope relies on grants, donations, and contributions from individuals and organizations to provide this access to care.

Since 2004, Dr. Filipi’s involvement in Hope has helped to secure more contributions and engage providers in supporting their critical work. Under his leadership, in 2007 Hope saw an increase in referrals leading to \$5 million in medical treatments—a 38% increase over 2006. The pharmacy program provided 11% more “no cost” prescriptions during this time period.

According to Stephen Johnson, Executive Director of Hope, Dr. Filipi’s efforts resulted in not only securing contributions of more than \$160,000 (funds with which Hope continues to operate), but also in expressed support from area hospital CEOs in regard to Hope’s improved course under Dr. Filipi’s leadership.

“David’s most striking attribute is his integrity,” said Jan Pelletier, current Hope Chairman. “He is a very kind man who uses his brains, connections, and resources for good. He is spiritually based and deeply cares for those who are less fortunate and depend on the community for health care. He firmly believes that from those to whom much has been given, much is expected and he has worked hard to develop rapport with the health systems and their leadership. He walks the talk.”

The MOMS leadership calls Dr. Filipi “a charismatic, compassionate physician who tirelessly dedicates his time, energy, and knowledge to the overall betterment of health care.” For this reason, COPIC Medical Foundation has chosen Dr. Filipi as the 2008 Harold E. Williamson Award recipient. Dr. Filipi received a \$10,000 grant to be designated to the nonprofit organization of his choice; he has chosen Omaha Community Foundation.

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Filipi and all the physicians in Nebraska who “walk the talk” and improve access to health care.

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