



Hospital Foundation awards grants, recognizes old, new officers

Local grant-making led the list of business at the December meeting of Chowan Regional Health Care Foundation's board of directors on Tuesday, Dec. 21. Executive Director Earl Bassett reported to the board on grants totaling \$105,846, including:

- \$1,564 to American Cancer Society for the Edenton Relay for Life;
- \$619 to American Red Cross for Flood Relief in Eastern North Carolina;
- \$809 to Bertie County Hurricane Floyd Disaster Relief Fund;
- \$206 to Governor's Hurricane Floyd Relief Fund;
- \$1,024 to Chowan Hospital for new chemotherapy chair;
- \$100 to the National Transplant Fund for a local lung transplant recipient;
- \$4,520 to Chowan Hospital for a patient education system;
- \$239 to Smokers SOS for advertising a smoking cessation program;
- \$50,000 to Chowan Hospital for renovations to the Psych Center Building;
- \$2,400 to Friends of Chowan Hospital for equipment for Chowan Hospital;
- \$784 to Chowan Hospital for testing kits for free PSA screenings to detect prostate cancer in men;
- \$2,689 to Bertie County Rescue Squad for Reconstruction following Flood, given in memory of Ed Daniels.

The grant to the Bertie County Rescue Squad represented the gross income from ticket sales for the foundation's 5th Annual Benefit Concert that was held October 29 at Edenton's Swain Auditorium.

Bassett reported that a grant for \$14,392 to the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service Foundation for a Breastfeeding Support Program based at Chowan Hospital will be made in January. As it was originally established, the Breastfeeding Support Program included only indigent patients. This grant by the foundation will allow all mothers with new babies to participate in the program. Breastfeeding has been shown to improve babies' overall health, including nutrition, immunity to diseases, and bonding with mothers.

The foundation board approved grants to assist with the recruitment of medical providers in the region. Chowan Hospital has recently recruited a pediatrician who needs assistance with repayment of educational loans. The foundation approved a grant of \$20,000 to Chowan Hospital to be used as local matching funds to attract grants from other statewide organizations for assistance with educational loans. The board also approved a grant of \$6,500 to Bertie Memorial Hospital to assist with their recruitment of a physician assistant to work in their Emergency Room. This grant will also be used as local matching funds to secure larger grants from outside the region for educational loans. Bertie Memorial Hospital staffs its Emergency Room with physician assistants, with backup provided by local physicians.

Grants paid out by the foundation in 1999 totaled \$64,954, with another \$40,892 approved for payment beginning in January.

In other business, the foundation recognized four retiring board members for their dedicated service. Receiving plaques were Marvin Baker, MD, Ed Clement, Mac Hux, and John Wood. Wood also retired as president of the foundation. New members named to serve on the board include Bernie Baker, MD representing the



Chowan Regional Health Care Foundation's newly elected officers are (from left) Chairman Pierce Lawing, Secretary Glorious Elliott, Vice Chairman John Dowd, and Treasurer Barbara Cale.

Chowan Hospital Medical Staff, Teresa Davis representing Bertie County, Shelby Strother representing Friends of Chowan Hospital, and Dalton Furlough and Fran Ward, both members at large.

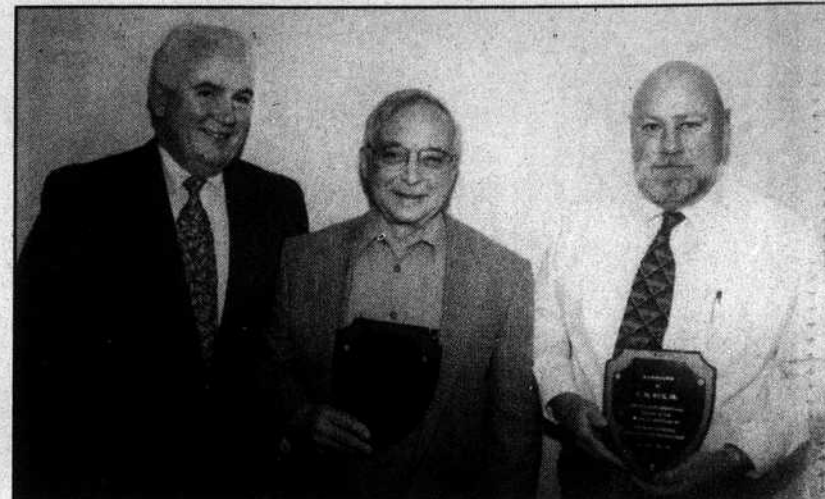
New officers were elected to serve in the year 2000. Pierce Lawing was named chairman, John Dowd vice chairman, Glorious Elliott secretary, and Barbara Cale treasurer.

The foundation board also discussed plans to support the development of a proposed wellness center. Although the planning process for this project was postponed during the recovery from the ex-

tensive flooding in the region, discussions are again underway. Officials from University Health Systems of Eastern Carolina, Chowan County, Chowan Hospital, Chowan Regional Health Care Foundation, and other entities will be meeting in the near future to map a strategy to create a community-owned wellness and fitness center to serve area residents.

The Chowan Regional Health Care Foundation (formerly Chowan Hospital Foundation), is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization

with the mission of supporting healthcare initiatives by making grants to worthy not-for-profit organizations involved in improving the health status of the residents of the region. It relies upon gifts and donations from area individuals and businesses to fund its work. Gifts to the foundation are tax deductible. For more information, you may contact the foundation at P.O. Box 629, Edenton, NC 27932, or call at 252-482-6440. The foundation's e-mail address is <earl.bassett@chowan.org>.



Chowan Regional Health Care Foundation retiring directors Marvin Baker, MD (center) and Mac Hux (right) display plaques presented for their years of service on the foundation board, while foundation executive director Earl Bassett looks on.

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Welcomes Duncan M. Fagundus, MD, FACR to the staff of the Quadrangle Division, Section of Rheumatology

Duncan M. Fagundus, MD, FACR, a specialist in Adult Rheumatology, will join the staff of Physicians East-Quadrangle Division, Section of Rheumatology, January 17th.

Dr. Fagundus received his medical degree from East Carolina University School of Medicine. Also, he performed his medical internship and residency in both internal medicine and pediatrics at East Carolina University School of Medicine. Dr. Fagundus received his fellowship in Rheumatology and Immunology from The Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston.

Dr. Fagundus is Board Certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine, the American Board of Pediatrics and the American Board of Internal Medicine with Rheumatology Certification.

He has been in private practice with the Tarboro Clinic since 1994. Dr. Fagundus joins Drs. Ramsdell, White and Alloway in providing adult rheumatology care through Physicians East, PA.

To schedule an appointment, please call 752-6101.

Rheumatology

- C. Michael Ramsdell, MD, FACR, FACP
- Randal E. White, MD, FACR, FACP
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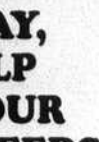
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The Chowan Herald will be closed the afternoon of Friday, Dec. 31, and all day Friday, Jan. 7, in observance of the New Year's holiday. Please note these dates when submitting news items. Thank you!