



*Healthier Children,
Healthier Families, and a
Healthier Community*

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Health Care Centers in Schools, Inc.

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PHOTO ATTACHED:

Amedisys President & COO Larry Graham (center right) pledges \$150,000 to Sue Catchings (center left), chief executive officer of Health Care Centers in Schools, for the Healthy Student Expansion Initiative of Health Care Centers in Schools. East Baton Rouge Parish School System contracts HCCS to operate the school nurse program and nine health centers. Representing EBRPSS is Dr. Herman Brister (left), associate superintendent for Instructional Support Services, and Anne Marie Zima (right), chairs the board of HCCS.

Amedisys Pledges \$150,000 to Healthy Student Initiative

BATON ROUGE, LA Today, Amedisys President Larry Graham presented a \$150,000 Healthy Student Initiative investment pledge card to Sue Catchings, CEO of Health Care Centers in Schools, Inc. The receipt of this pledge of support acknowledges Amedisys as the first of sixteen potential corporate community investment partners in the expansion of Health Care Centers in Schools.

HCCS contracts with the East Baton Rouge Parish Public School System to operate the school nurse program at EBR public schools as well as currently operating nine school-based health care centers. The expansion initiative is being undertaken in partnership with the EBR School Board, Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center, and LSU Health Sciences Center. By the year 2012, Health Care Centers in Schools will offer primary and preventative medical and mental health services to *all*

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AMEDISYS PLEDGE/ 2

students in EBR public schools grades K-12 through a parish-wide network of 16 school-based health centers.

Spearheading the expansion initiative is former East Baton Rouge parish school board member and well known educational excellence advocate, Roger Moser. Mr. and Mrs. Moser are highly supportive of the work being done by Health Care Centers in Schools and have joined Amedisys in offering a personal investment totaling more than \$150,000.

The Healthy Student Partnership model of delivering primary care medical services becomes financially self-sustaining within two years of each center opening. The service delivery system is unique to Baton Rouge yet presents a model capable of being replicated throughout Louisiana. It is based on the belief that children who are physically and mentally healthy will have a greater chance to improve academic achievement.

For more information, please contact Charlotte B. Odom, HCCS vice president, Communications & Development at (225) 343-9447.

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