



## **The Community Foundation of South Alabama Gives Award to USA Mitchell Cancer Institute**

The Community Foundation of South Alabama is pleased to announce that the University of South Alabama Mitchell Cancer Institute has been selected to receive \$150,000 from The Community Foundation of South Alabama's Community Endowment Health Initiative. The award presentation was held on **November 8, 2007 at 10:00 a.m.** at The Community Foundation's office, 212 St. Joseph Street, Mobile.

The award will be used to fund a program developed by the Mitchell Cancer Institute that will provide free screening for cancer, hypertension and diabetes to any resident in The Community Foundation's eight-county service area. The program's service area includes Baldwin, Choctaw, Clarke Conecuh, Escambia, Mobile, Monroe and Washington counties, and all Indian reservations located within the eight county area. The screening program will begin this month and continue through next September.

"The Community Foundation of South Alabama is so pleased to give the Community Endowment Health Initiative Award to the Mitchell Cancer Institute," stated Tom Davis, Executive Director. "We know this award will be used to improve the quality of life for people living in our service area who may be under served, or who may not have medical resources available. Knowing that the Mitchell Cancer Institute will be establishing a much needed information-sharing network for this area of the state and screening for potentially life threatening illnesses gives us confidence that they will be excellent stewards of the award."

Through the aid of the award, the Mitchell Cancer Institute will be able to develop a model comprehensive health outreach and referral network that will focus on cancer control and outreach. The Mitchell Cancer Institute will be able to collect, analyze and provide data in target communities to other health care providers, researchers and grant providers.

The initial health focus will be on cancer education, information and prevention, and will include 10 health outreach and screening events held in the eight-county service area and on two Indian reservations. The screening will also address other illnesses and health risk factors including hypertension and diabetes. The goal of the project is to collect data and develop community level relationships that will set the stage to bring Federal funds for research and outreach into the eight county south Alabama region.

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