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PROFESSIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM OF NEW JERSEY RECEIVES DONATION FROM PROMUTUAL GROUP

Funding Will Further Organization's Mission of Helping Physicians in Crisis



Linda Pleva (right), director of administration for the Professional Assistance Program of New Jersey and Dr. Louis E. Baxter (second from right), executive medical director for the organization, accept a donation from Mary Ardizzone (second from left), marketing manager, and Flora Nielsen (left), senior account specialist, both of ProMutual Group.

Boston, MA (July 16, 2007) – Professional Assistance Program of New Jersey now has the bolstered support to assist the state's physicians thanks to a recent donation from medical malpractice insurance company, ProMutual Group. On Thursday, June 21, 2007, a \$35,000 donation was made to the Professional Assistance Program of New Jersey so that it can continue assisting healthcare providers with medical conditions that may impair their personal and professional lives. This donation is one in a series that ProMutual Group has planned to support physician health programs throughout the states in which it currently operates.

The Professional Assistance Program of New Jersey was established almost 25 years ago to educate, identify, treat and assist healthcare providers who are experiencing substance use disorders or mental health problems. The aim of the program is to assist and be a resource to these individuals so that they can recover and continue their roles as medical professionals. The program also serves as an advocate for those healthcare providers who are in documented, ongoing recovery. In this role, the Professional Assistance Program of New Jersey works closely with the New Jersey board of medicine.

“Our organization is very appreciative of the generous donation ProMutual Group has made,” said Dr. Louis E. Baxter, FASAM, executive medical director of the Professional Assistance Program of New Jersey and president elect of the American Society of Addiction Medicine. “This additional funding will help us in our mission of assisting physicians with impairing medical conditions as well as to protect the welfare of the New Jersey public.”

Recognizing the critical importance of supporting physician well-being, ProMutual Group has donated in excess of \$2.5 million to similar healthcare programs over the last decade. Recipients of the company’s past philanthropic efforts have included the Massachusetts Medical Society’s Physician Health Services, the Rhode Island Medical Society’s Physician Health Program and the New Hampshire Professional Health Program.

“We believe in the importance of programs such as the Professional Assistance Program of New Jersey and the benefits it provides to the healthcare industry,” said Gregg L. Hanson, ProMutual Group’s senior vice president of underwriting. “Supporting physicians with impairing medical conditions ultimately improves the quality of care in the communities in which those physicians serve. This is just another facet of ProMutual Group’s ongoing support of physician well-being and its role in support of excellent medical care and patient safety.”

About ProMutual Group

ProMutual Group is the largest provider of medical malpractice liability insurance in New England, insuring more than 18,000 physicians, surgeons, and dentists as well as a large number of hospitals, health centers and clinics. It is one of the top 10 medical liability insurance providers in the country based on direct written premium. ProMutual Group has more than \$2.1 billion in admitted assets, \$504.7 million in policyholder surplus, and \$338.8 million in direct written premium. ProMutual Group has a Best’s Rating of A- (Excellent), and is acknowledged as a leader in providing risk management and claim services.

Based in Massachusetts, ProMutual Group member companies also operate in Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Vermont. ProMutual Group distributes its products through independent agents. For more information, visit ProMutual Group’s web site at www.promutualgroup.com.

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