



**Salina Family Healthcare Center**  
*A Federally Qualified Community Health Center*

651 E. Prescott, Salina, KS 67401  
Medical Center ~ (785) 825-7251  
Dental Center ~ (785) 826-9017

August 29, 2012

Mr. Andrew T. Martin  
Executive Director  
Salina Area United Way  
P.O. Box 335  
128 N. Santa Fe, Suite 3A  
Salina, Kansas 67401

Dear Andy,

The purpose of this letter is to express gratitude to the Salina Area United Way (SAUW), its Board of Directors, volunteers, business and individual donors for funding our 2012 S.M.A.R.T. Community Improvement Grant Application. We understand that this generous gift of over \$36,920 of the Salina area community represents around 5% of the over \$760,000 granted by the United Way to strengthen the Salina area community. In short, this gift is one of the largest local grants we received in 2012 and makes up 0.4% of our operating revenue in the Salina area.

Our grant application requested funding to improve the health and self-reliance of our community. Our organization staff, Board and volunteers are proud to partner with the United Way to create lasting change for the common good of all with meaningful and measurable results to improve lives and strengthen Salina area communities.

It is a well known fact that community health is critical to the education and financial stability of a family. There is ample evidence that infants born with low and very low birthweight are at increased risk for developing significant illnesses and chronic disease in later life. From 2012 to 2015 our measurable **S.M.A.R.T. Community Improvement Grant Goal** at Salina Family Healthcare Center (SFHC) is by December 31, 2015, SFHC will reduce the incidence of low birth weight babies to less than 5%.

According to our agency data, in 2011, 9,642 total clients were served at SFHC with 109 prenatal patients. 47% of our prenatal patients were uninsured. Of these 109 deliveries, 10 mothers delivered low birth weight babies (9.2%). Through collaboration with the Saline County Health Department, we have integrated prenatal group OB education visits into the routine prenatal care offered at SFHC. These educational sessions provide OB patients knowledge and tools to maximize their health during their pregnancy. We have offered monthly classes (English and Spanish) since July 2010. Thorough chart review and patient surveys will be performed on all mothers of infants born at low birthrate to identify potential risk factors that may warrant more aggressive interventions. Additional focus will be given to target both internal and external marketing of our OB services to new and existing patients.

The priority focus area we selected was to increase the percentage of babies born at low risk of preventable health problems by decreasing the percentage of low- and very low birthweight infants delivered by SFHC to less than 5%. The national average for low birth weight is currently 9%. We not only look at the infants we deliver, but also any infant whose mother received prenatal care through our office but may have delivered elsewhere or by another physician; as long as we can find the information. Unfortunately, we had several high risk obstetrical patients during 2011 that in spite of appropriate prenatal care, and in some cases referral to obstetricians and even maternal-fetal medicine specialists, still delivered prematurely and with low birthweight. Since we include all infants born in the last year to date, it will take some time before those infants are no longer affecting our overall percentage.

In closing, I would like to share with you just one story of the **meaningful and powerful** work we are doing together to advance our community. Miranda, at the age of 23, came to SFHC to have her first child. Miranda was initially seen early in her first trimester of pregnancy and from the very beginning, took advantage of the monthly OB classes. Through her regular pre-natal care appointments with her doctor and monthly educational classes, Miranda learned how diet, oral health, unhealthy behaviors and stress can all affect your pregnancy. She ultimately gave birth to a healthy baby boy and is very appreciative for all that the Salina Family Healthcare Center did for her.

Thank you again for all United Way does to advance our community. We are proud to LIVE UNITED with Salina Area United Way, other funded partners, business and individual donors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Rob Freelove".

Rob Freelove  
Executive Director