

**THE  
DOROTHY  
RIDER  
POOL**  

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**HEALTH  
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For Immediate Release

**Pool Health Care Trust Grants \$175,000 to Support  
Telehealthcare Pilot Program with Allentown School District**

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Allentown, PA (January 14, 2010) – The Dorothy Rider Pool Health Care Trust awarded \$175,000 to support Lehigh Valley Health Network’s [LVHN] Department of Pediatrics in the development of a telehealthcare pilot program in the Allentown School District [ASD]. Telehealth services are “the use of electronic information and telecommunications technologies to support long-distance clinical health care, patient and professional health-related education, public health and health administration” (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for the Advancement of Telehealth).

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Karen S. Angello shared, “I am very excited to have ASD participate in this innovative pilot with the Lehigh Valley Health Network and am very grateful for the support from the Dorothy Rider Pool Health Care Trust.

Representatives from all three organizations will mutually present to the ASD Board of Directors Education Committee-of-the Whole at its meeting of January 14, 2010 so we may gain approval to proceed. Upon this approval, a working team representing the partnership will work out the details that will ensure a successful pilot including a communication and education plan for parents, staff and students. This partnership will result in our bringing forth a new paradigm in addressing the health needs of our students and their families. Our goal is focused on the health and well being of our students so they may be successful in school.”

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**Add One – Pool Health Care Trust Telehealthcare Grant**

Telehealth connections will be recommended for three elementary schools (Cleveland, McKinley and Central) and at Lehigh Valley Hospital--17<sup>th</sup> Street. The three schools combined have a student population in excess of 1,200 children. This partnership will immediately increase access to care, decrease “lost” time from work for parents and guardians related to taking children to a health care provider, and improve the management of chronic disease issues in a school-aged population. Joseph A. Tracy, Vice

President for Telehealth Services at Lehigh Valley Health Network, commented, “We are excited about the opportunity to provide this service in the Allentown schools. This may be the first school-based telehealth network in the Commonwealth.”

Dr. Jarret R. Patton, MD, Medical Director of the Children’s Clinic at LVHN, expressed enthusiasm for the program, “I am thrilled that we will have the opportunity to serve more children in the Allentown School District. This should benefit some children within the district that had no immediate access to health care providers within their school. I am thankful to the Pool Trust for this unique opportunity.”

The Dorothy Rider-Pool Health Care Trust was founded in 1976 by the estate of Leonard Parker Pool and named for his wife, Dorothy Rider Pool. The Trust’s mission is to serve as a resource that enables Lehigh Valley Health Network to be a superior regional hospital and improve the health of the citizens of the region it serves. The Trust’s grantmaking, approximately \$20 million over the past five years and \$101 million since its inception, has provided resources to LVHN to support clinical innovation; medical, nursing, and allied health professions education; health services research; and programs to improve community health. Its shared goal with LVHN is to have a dramatic, demonstrable, and sustained positive impact on the health of the citizens of the Lehigh Valley.

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