

SUNBURY AREA HEALTH FOUNDATION

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In early 2005 the Board of Trustees of Sunbury Community Hospital began exploring the possibility of a formal relationship with other health care providers. Initially the Board entered into discussions with Essent HealthCare of Nashville, Tennessee. At the end of June of last year those discussions were terminated. However, by the end of July the Board of Trustees began having discussions with CHS/Community Health Systems, Inc. (CHS), also of Nashville, Tennessee. Those discussions resulted in the sale of the hospital property in Sunbury to CHS, which now operates the hospital in Sunbury through Sunbury Hospital Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of CHS.

The process of negotiating the sale of the Hospital included a review process by the Pennsylvania Attorney General's office and the Northumberland County Orphan's Court. The Attorney General held a public meeting in August at the Hospital, and an Orphan's Court hearing was held in September. Following the review process and each of these public hearings, both the Attorney General and the Northumberland County Orphan's Court approved the sale, and the transfer of the Hospital became effective on October 1, 2005.

Following the sale of the Hospital to CHS, the Sunbury Community Hospital Board of Trustees changed the name of that entity to the Sunbury Area Health Foundation (SAHF), and reorganized into a Charitable Foundation. The Foundation is pleased to report that, following the completion of the sale, the projected financial statements as of December 31, 2005, indicate a total post-closing fund balance, including restricted and unrestricted assets, in an amount just over \$3,000,000.00.

Following the conversion of the entity to a Foundation, the Board of Trustees of the Sunbury Area Health Foundation met with representatives of several regional foundations to explore the possibility of an affiliation, designed to further the goals of SAHF. Following these meetings, SAHF selected the Central Susquehanna Community Foundation, and the two entities intend to form an affiliation aimed at furthering the philanthropic goals of each. SAHF representatives are excited about the possibility of this potential affiliation, in that it will allow SAHF to retain its stated purposes of improving the health care of the region, while moving forward towards greater growth of the Foundation funds. One such exciting factor is the intention of the Central Susquehanna Community Foundation to open an office in the soon to be completed Greater Susquehanna Valley Chamber of Commerce building along Routes 11 & 15 in Shamokin Dam. Officials from the two organizations expect to have the affiliation completed by this summer.