Independent Vermont Doctors Benefit from Vermont Educational Loan Repayment Program

HealthFirst, Vermont’s independent practice association, has partnered with the Broughton Fund and the University of Vermont Larner College of Medicine Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) to provide Educational Loan Repayment (ELR) Community Match Grants to HealthFirst member practices seeking to hire new physicians or retain current physicians. AHEC administers the ELR program on behalf of the State of Vermont. Community grant funds of $50,000 to assist with educational loan repayment have been earmarked over two years, beginning in 2018. Independent physicians play a key role in the health care landscape, and the goal of this collaboration is to strengthen the primary care physician workforce and private practice model, and to ensure, through recruitment and retention, an adequate supply of doctors to meet the health care needs of Vermonter.

The recipients of the 2018 ELR Community Match Grants are:

**Glen C. MacKenzie, MD, FACOG**
Dr. Glen MacKenzie received his Bachelor of Science degree in Pharmacology from the University of California at Santa Barbara with Honors in 1985 and his Doctor of Medicine from Loyola University of Chicago in 1991. He was accepted to postgraduate residency training at Loma Linda University where he completed clinical rotations at both the main campus medical center and the University's Los Angeles urban annex, Glendale Adventist Medical Center. Upon graduation Dr. MacKenzie and his wife Donna moved to rural Vermont to raise their children. He currently works at Women and Children's Services of Southern Vermont, a private solo practice in Manchester, focusing on Gynecology after serving as an Obstetrician for 15 years. Dr. MacKenzie has evolved his medical career through a traditional contribution within the clinical, surgical, quality review, credentialing and commercial aspects of medicine, with the goal of providing the highest caliber of women’s health care.

**Katie Casas Miller, MD, FACOG**
Dr. Katie Miller grew up in a big family in rural Maine and attended Grinnell College in Iowa where she majored in Anthropology and Biochemistry. She always wanted to be a doctor, but she also loves to wander and to learn about different cultures, so she spent several years traveling abroad and living in New York City before attending medical school at UVM’s College of Medicine. She completed her residency in Internal Medicine at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia, then returned to Vermont. Dr. Miller is very happy to be practicing at Middlebury Family Health, closer to her New England family and friends. She lives in Weybridge with her husband and two daughters, and loves working with plants, making food and spending quality time with the people she loves.

**Thomas Chittenden Health Center**
Thomas Chittenden Health Center (TCHC) in Williston is a family health care clinic established in 1969. THCH providers consider themselves as care partners with patients and work to develop comprehensive care plans and promote community-based support of individual health care needs. These funds will assist the TCHC to recruit a new provider by offering ELR as an incentive, in exchange for a contractual service obligation.

For more information about the Vermont Educational Loan Repayment Program, visit www.vtahec.org