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For Immediate Release:

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### **\$1.5 Million Grant Awarded to Hospital for Clinic Expansion Project**

Hazel Hawkins Hospitals Foundation successfully secured a \$1.5 million grant from the William and Inez Mabie Family Foundation earlier this week. The funds will be used for a 3-phase, \$5 million "Clinic Expansion Project."

"Our current clinic facilities, located in Hollister and San Juan Bautista, are seeing record numbers of patients," said Hospital CEO, Ken Underwood. "We've done our best to accommodate the ever-increasing number of patients by staying open in the evening and on weekends." We've also added a small annex for specialty visits." "We need to add more clinic staff and providers, but the clinic facilities are just too small." "With no room to expand at our current location, the San Benito Health Care District Board, who oversee the Hospital Clinics, felt we needed not only more space, but we needed more clinic sites."

"We are committed to maintaining services for our more than 22,000 clinic patients,"

added Underwood. “Phase I will entail establishing a larger, temporary clinic for that purpose.”

Phases II calls for locating and remodeling an larger existing facility, with Phase III including the purchase of land and building an entire new facility. The new larger facilities will not only accommodate more patients, but more staff and providers as well. New specialty services will include cardiology, orthopedics, asthma and allergy, Diabetes, nutrition and disease prevention. “Our goal of course is to improve access to vital health care services in the community,” added Underwood.

“The San Benito Health Care District Board of Directors and I are thrilled with the grant from the Mabie Family Foundation,” said Underwood.

“The \$1.5 million grants brings the total amount of support we’ve received from the Mabie Family Foundation to \$3 million,” comments Hospital Foundation Director, Leah Dowty. “We hope to use this grant as leverage in seeking other public and private funding.”

William and Inez Mabie were ranchers in the area who set up their family foundation through their estate. “We are very grateful to the Mabie family for having the foresight to set aside their assets to benefit the San Benito County area for generations to come, she added. “We feel honored to have received such extraordinary support!” The Clinics will be named in honor of the Mabie Family and their commitment to the underserved residents of San Benito County.

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