



IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Start Date: November 18

End Date: December 2

The Four Cornerstones Program featured at November Chamber meeting

Sauk Rapids, Minn.—The Sauk Rapids Chamber held their monthly meeting Nov. 17 at C & L Distributing. Attendants at the meeting listened to Roger Rieger discuss the Four Cornerstones financial literacy program.

Rieger explained that the Four Cornerstones program is a volunteer financial coaching program and a joint effort between the United Way, TRICAP, Minnesota Job Service, and Catholic Charities to increase financial literacy in central Minnesota. Rieger emphasized that everyone can benefit from this financial literacy program.

Typically lasting eight hours, the four-part series covers: budgeting to create savings, debt reduction and asset building, building a good credit rating, and consumer protection and financial institutions. Currently, the program is free, and so far, over 750 individuals have increased their financial literacy.

Meeting host CentraCare Health System featured Dr. Terry Pladson, President and CEO, who explained that CentraCare currently employs over 6,400 people. Within CentraCare Health System, there are three hospitals, four long-term care facilities, and 10 clinics in eight different communities. CentraCare reaches 12 counties, and 650,000 people receive care through CentraCare programs.

Discussing the construction project at St. Cloud Hospital, Pladson emphasized there will be no increase in the cost of health care because of the expansion project. Pladson explained that the project continues to move forward, and the cranes came down Nov. 17. It is currently the largest construction project in the state, and is projected to be completed in May 2012.

The Sauk Rapids Chamber meets on the fourth Thursday of every month. The next meeting is December 22 at 11:45 a.m. at Good Shepherd Fellowship Hall, hosted by 360 Chiropractic. Chamber meetings are open to interested business representatives. There is no cost to attend, but registration is required by December 20. Call the Chamber at 251-2940, ext. 126, or register online at www.SaukRapidsChamber.com.

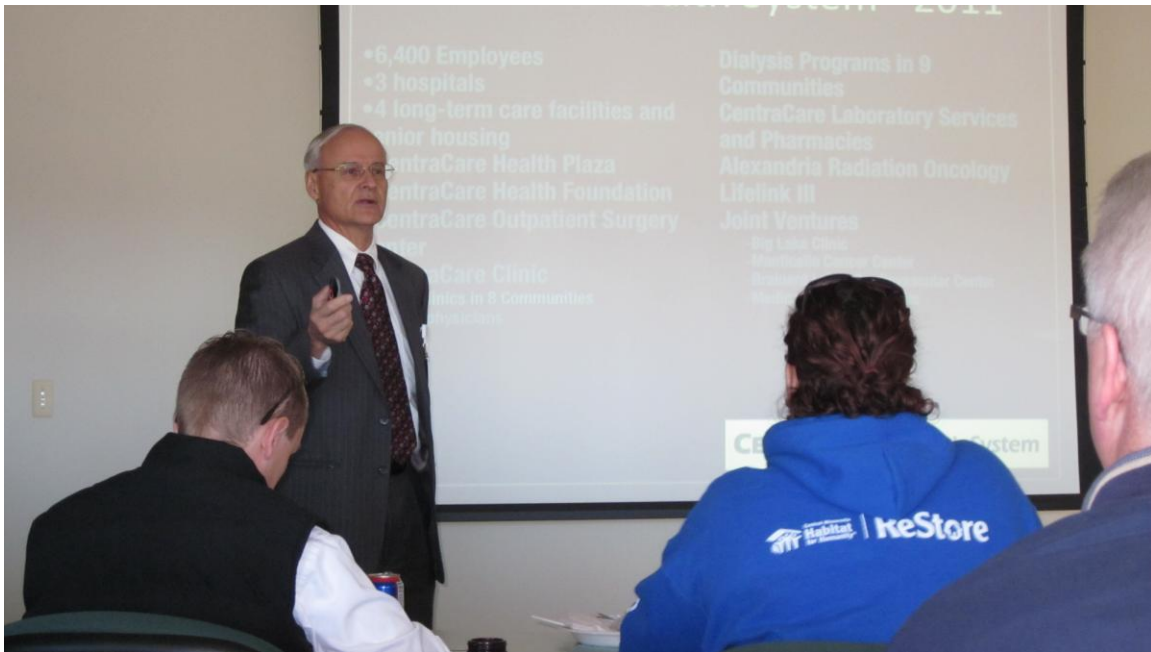
For more information, call (320) 251-2940.

The Sauk Rapids Chamber promotes a healthy business environment in the community of Sauk Rapids, working in cooperation with member businesses, local government, the public school system and other community organizations.

-Chamber-

Submitted by Alexa Sandbakken, Sauk Rapids Chamber, (320) 656-3810.

Photo Captions:



Dr. Terry Pladson, CentraCare Health System (2)
President and CEO of CentraCare Health System, Dr. Terry Pladson, at the Sauk Rapids Chamber meeting in November. The meeting was at C & L Distributing, and Pladson discussed the St. Cloud Hospital expansion project.



Roger Rieger, Catholic Charities (2)
At the November Sauk Rapids Chamber meeting at C & L Distributing, Roger Rieger, Catholic Charities, explained the Four Cornerstones financial literacy program.

Alexa Sandbakken
Chamber Communications Intern
Direct (320) 656-3810
Chamber (320) 251-2940 ext. 110