

MEMBER NEWS

Sutter Doctors Rate Best for Health Care Quality


For the second year in a row, the Integrated Healthcare Association (IHA) has presented the Top Overall Performance Award to Sutter Regional Medical Foundation and its affiliated medical group, Solano Regional Medical Group.

The award was presented at the IHA annual Pay for Performance (P4P) Stakeholders Meeting for 2007 P4P results. California's P4P effort is the largest physician incentive program in the United States, involving 35,000 physicians caring for more than 11 million individuals.

"This recognition truly demonstrates that we're focused on providing the highest quality care and the best patient service possible," says Samuel Santoro, D.O., OB/GYN and President of Solano

Regional Medical Group. "I'm proud of the talented and dedicated people we have, as well as the most advanced outpatient facilities and technology available for our patients and their families."

Top performing physician groups scored in the top 20% of participating groups on performance measures that include clinical quality measures, patient satisfaction measures and use of health information technology that includes supporting clinical decision making and use of systems to assure patients received evidence-based care.

Sutter Regional Medical Foundation is a locally governed and managed affiliate of Sutter Health, a not-for-profit network of physicians and hospitals in Northern California. 

Small Business Credit Crisis

With the collapse of the housing market, the home equity bank that many entrepreneurs had come to rely on is now gone. Small businesses will again have to look to more traditional sources of financing such as Small Business Administration (SBA) loan programs. Below are a few of the federal loan programs:

SBA 7(a) Loan Guaranty Program provides financing for working capital, equipment, fixtures, buildings, leasehold improvements and debt refinancing. Loan maturity is typically 7-10 years for working capital and up to 25 years for fixed assets.

SBA Certified Development Company (CDC) 504 Loan provides long-term, fixed-rate financing to small businesses to acquire real estate, machinery or equipment for expansion or modernization. This is a great option

for business seeking to purchase or construct a building for their business (business must occupy at least 51% of the building).

SBA Micro-Loan 7(m) Loan Program provides short-term loans of up to \$35,000 to small businesses and not-for-profit child-care centers for working capital or the purchase of inventory, supplies, furniture, fixtures, and equipment. Proceeds cannot be used to pay existing debts or to purchase real estate.

SBA Community Express Loan Program provides up to \$25,000 in unsecured microloans. A unique feature of the Community Express Loan Program is that applicants are required to obtain assistance from an approved technical assistance provider.

For more information, contact the SBDC at (707) 864-3382 or visit www.solanoshdc.org. 