

NEWS RELEASE
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OBICI Healthcare Foundation Opens New Office In Downtown Suffolk

The OBICI Healthcare Foundation has completed construction on their new 7,000 square-foot facility located at 106 West Finney Avenue. To celebrate, they will hold an Open House on Wednesday, April 14, 2010 from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. This event is open to the public.

“We want to share with the community this new resource and the exciting things that we are doing with our partners in Western Tidewater,” said Foundation Chairman George Birdsong. “The Foundation office will serve as a resource for non-profits improving health by hosting training opportunities to help build management capacity and offer meeting space for health-related initiatives.”

Mr. Amedeo Obici was successful in business and passionate about helping the people of this community and was the sole benefactor of the Louise Obici Memorial Hospital, named for and dedicated to his wife. The Foundation was created from his estate and from the proceeds of the sale of the hospital in 2006. Obici Healthcare Foundation continues Amedeo Obici’s legacy to provide access to medical care for all. The mission of the Foundation represents a continuation of Mr. and Mrs. Obici’s legacy of caring.

“Suffolk is fortunate to have such an outstanding organization that is dedicated to improving the healthcare of our community,” said Mayor Linda T. Johnson. “The Obici Healthcare Foundation continues to have a positive impact on nearby neighborhoods in

Suffolk and Western Tidewater and ensures that quality and convenient care are available to the citizens.”

The Foundation is committed to continuing Amedeo Obici’s vision of improving the health status of people residing in Suffolk and surround areas. This philanthropic organization addresses the unmet needs of the medically indigent and uninsured. It also supports programs that have the primary purpose of preventing illness and disease.

“As a Foundation, we are pleased to preserve Mr. Obici’s tradition of investing in Western Tidewater to make it a healthier community,” Mr. Birdsong said. The property was formerly the site of the Birdsong Recreation Center. The land was donated to the City of Suffolk and the center was built by the Birdsong family in the early 1950s. After many years of the center offering healthy lifestyles for Suffolk residents, it seemed only fitting to have this historical site serve as home to the Obici Healthcare Foundation.

“The Main Street location is easily accessible to the community and this Victorian-style building fits nicely into the Suffolk Historic Downtown District. In an effort to support our local economy we involved local contractors such as C.W. Brinkley Construction, Inc. and numerous subcontractors,” Foundation Executive Director Gina Pitrone said.

“As good stewards we have incorporated many energy-saving features such as thermal windows, a geothermal heating and cooling system, lighting activated by motion sensors and energy efficient building materials.”



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About the OBICI Healthcare Foundation: This private foundation was created in 2006 with assets established through the generosity of Mr. Obici and funds from the merger of Louise Obici Memorial Hospital and Sentara Healthcare. Since its inception, the Foundation provided nearly \$14 million in grant funding.