FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION IN HEALTH CARE

LATROBE, PA, July 11, 2017 … Applications for the Thomas P. Gessner, MD Healthcare Scholarship are being accepted by Excela Health. The fund, administered by the Latrobe Area Hospital Charitable Foundation where Dr. Gessner is foundation board president, was established in 2005 by the Latrobe Hospital medical staff to honor the physician for his 28 years of service.

In recent years, Dr. Gessner served as hospital medical director, and later as Senior Physician Advisor of Excela Health until his retirement in July 2006. The longtime pediatrician retired from private practice and moved to emeritus status on the Excela Health medical staff.

The scholarship is awarded annually to an Excela Health employee who is enrolled in an accredited institution of higher education for one of the health care professions. It is intended to encourage Excela Health employees to continue with their education.

Acceptable professions are those requiring education beyond an undergraduate degree. A list of specific degrees that are preferred can be found in the application form and guidelines for the scholarship. Deadline for applications is August 18, 2017.

Each scholarship award is set at a maximum amount of $3,000. Applicants must have successfully completed 50 percent of their program to be eligible.

Candidates must meet a minimum academic standard of a 3.25 GPA at the time of application. Although minimum eligibility is met through grade point average, students that participate in peer teaching and quality improvement activities will be given preference. No student on any form of probation within the institution is eligible for the Thomas P. Gessner, MD Healthcare Scholarship program.

Several of the Foundation’s golf outings, along with contributions from individuals
and organizations, seeded the scholarship fund. Latrobe Area Hospital Charitable Foundation continues to accept donations in order to augment the fund. To learn more about the scholarship contact Maureen Brant, Excela Health Latrobe Hospital Human Resources, 724-537-1012.