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Office of Public Information

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### **Crowder College –Webb City Continues to Receive Donations for Building Project**

**Webb City, MO** – Ed Scorse, Southwest Missouri Bank & Freeman Health System made check presentations to the Crowder College Foundation – Webb City building campaign today in the amounts of \$25,000, \$20,000 and \$70,000 respectively.

Their generous donation will be matched in the \$1.5M fund raising efforts to complete Dawson-Spencer Hall that will open this fall.

Freeman is sponsoring the Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) suite which includes a classroom and lab for the program. The OTA program will be offered in Webb City in the new Dawson-Spencer Hall this fall. The OTA program trains students to provide hands on services to children and adults who are learning to overcome physical, emotional, and other challenges faced in everyday life. High growth and demand make this program a great opportunity for both students and the area health care community.

“Crowder College is known for producing some of the region’s most talented graduates. Freeman relies heavily on Crowder to supply us with capable, qualified employees in both clinical and nonclinical fields. By donating the funds to support Crowder’s Webb City campus expansion, we are able to give back to an institution that has long given to us. We are honored for the opportunity and look forward to supporting the many talented individuals who will earn an education within those walls,” stated Paula Baker, Freeman Health System CEO.

Locally owned and nationally recognized, Freeman Health System has earned a number of *US News & World Report* distinctions – Best Hospital in Southwest Missouri, #4 hospital in the state, and High Performing status in seven specialties. The health system includes Freeman Hospital West, Freeman Hospital East, Freeman Neosho Hospital, and Ozark Center – the area’s largest provider of behavioral health services – as well as two urgent care clinics, dozens of physician clinics and a variety of specialty services. A not-for-profit health system, Freeman provides cancer care, heart and vascular care, neurology and neurosurgery, orthopaedics, children’s services, and women’s services and has more than 300 physicians on staff. Additionally, Freeman is the only Children’s Miracle Network Hospital in a 70-mile radius.

“We always want to do our part, and we are very happy to be able to support the Crowder College/Webb City expansion project. This expansion will bring needed educational opportunities to many local residents, and will help our communities thrive. We are all proud that SMB can contribute to this project,” provided in a written statement by Peggy Fuller, Vice President/Marketing Director, SMB.

Southwest Missouri Bank just celebrated its 35<sup>th</sup> birthday, and since being founded in 1979 has been committed to the growing health and prosperity of the communities in which it does business.

Ed Scorse is a long-time resident of the Webb City area. His donation will support a classroom in the new building. “Pay Back time!!! This is a way for me to say THANK YOU to the Webb City Community, Crowder College, and our Veterans. My mother Shirley A. Scorse and my siblings all graduated from WCHS. My first two years were with Crowder

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College. Special Thanks to our Veterans as the rest of us enjoy a lot of everyday Freedoms due to their sacrifices over the years," said Scorse.

The new building is located on the east part of the current location at 600 S. Ellis Street, Webb City. The building will house a 9,000 square foot, FEMA Safe room, which will also serve as classroom space. The additional building will house the Occupational Therapy Assistant program with its own classroom and lab, plus 9 classrooms, 2 computer labs, a conference room, study areas and office suite. The 22,000 square foot addition will provide much needed space for students, faculty and staff at the Webb City facility.

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For more information please feel free to contact my office or Cyndi Adamson, Webb City Director, at 417-673-2345 or e-mail: [cyndiadamson@crowder.edu](mailto:cyndiadamson@crowder.edu)



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