



Congressman  
**JOE DONNELLY** 2ND DISTRICT OF INDIANA

**Congressman Joe Donnelly, 2nd District of Indiana**

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# THE DONNELLY DISPATCH

Dear Beth,

I had a busy week traveling around north central Indiana and meeting with many of you. I was glad to see some much-needed rain and look forward to a nice weekend.

### Elkhart's Heart City Health Center

On Tuesday, I was pleased to visit Elkhart's Heart City Health Center (HCHC) to discuss funding that the center will receive as a result of *The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act*. HCHC provides affordable health care for uninsured and underinsured adults and children in the Elkhart area.

It is important that recovery money is being invested in places, like community health centers, that directly benefit people in our community. The funding that HCHC will receive will help meet the increased demand the center has recently seen as a result of the difficult economic times that many residents of the Elkhart area are experiencing.

The Increased Demand for Services grant, which is for slightly more than \$187,000 will allow the health center to continue employing a temporary physician to see patients and to recruit a full-time permanent employee. With the addition of the temporary physician, the clinic has been able to decrease the waiting time for new patients from two months to within 72 hours. The grant has a two-year duration.

The Center will also receive \$502,000 as a result of the Capital Improvement Projects grant, which will allow them to work with local contractors to add space to the existing health center's structure. The new space, which the center will break ground on later this month, will add seven examination rooms, which will increase access to timely care. This is also a two-year grant.

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Here I am at Heart City Health Center with Vernita Todd, CEO of HCHC and Elkhart Mayor Dick Moore.

### **Pilgrim Manor in Plymouth**

On Tuesday, I was privileged to have the opportunity to visit Pilgrim Manor, a nursing care facility in Plymouth, to speak to residents about healthcare reform. We had a great conversation, and I was pleased to have the chance to answer residents' questions.

I look forward to visiting Pilgrim Manor again soon, and I thank everyone who attended.



Here I am answering a question for a resident of Pilgrim Manor.

### **Mount Zion Dam Public Meeting**

On Tuesday evening, I held a public meeting at Rochester High School to provide folks with an update on the status of the Mount

Zion Dam project. Representatives from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, who are managing the project, and American Structurepoint Inc., the firm in charge of redesigning the dam, were also present to answer questions.

As of now, construction will probably begin on the dam and bridge above it in the spring of 2011. As I receive more updates, I will be sure to keep Rochester-area folks in the loop.



Here I am speaking at the public meeting. A drawing of the proposed redesign of the dam is to my left.

#### **Washington High School Football Team**

On Monday, I stopped by Washington High School in South Bend to speak with members of the football team. We had a great conversation about the importance of teamwork. I was extremely impressed by the team, and I wish them a successful upcoming season.

Thank you again for reading The Donnelly Dispatch. Please do not hesitate to contact me with your feedback or if I can ever be of assistance to you. I value your views, and your input helps me to better represent the people of Indiana's Second District in Congress.

Sincerely,

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