

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Dr. Judd Receives**

### **2008 Physician of the Year Award**

Dr. Thomas E. Judd has been selected to receive the “Physician of the Year” award from the Home Care Alliance of Massachusetts. He was nominated by the Holyoke Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice Life Care in appreciation of how Dr. Judd has been a proponent of home health care and has worked so closely with the agency’s home health care and advanced technologies.

Officials from the HVNA and Hospice note that as the Home Health industry has faced many changes, Dr. Judd has stayed apprised of the challenges faced by their home health and hospice programs. He was the first physician in the Holyoke area to use web based telehealth technology and the physician’s portal which allows doctors to view their patients records and sign physician orders on-line. They note that Dr. Judd is a strong and compassionate patient advocate and is one of the few physicians that will still make house calls. According to the Republican, Kimberly Richie, Judd’s practice manager said, “He does home care for our patients.., who are too sick to make it to our office. He provides them comfort and caring. “He’s a compassionate and caring physician,” said Marie Deitz, the Director of Hospice Life Care, who has visited patients in their home with Dr. Judd. Christina Rinaldi-Orciari, Director of Home Care for the Holyoke VNA agreed, noting, “ He always goes that extra mile all of the time.” Jean Zaleski, Director of Community Resource Development of the Holyoke VNA and Hospice Life Care added that, “Dr. Judd has often opened his practice to those who are in need and with complex medical issues. His concern and attention for his patients makes all the difference.”

Dr. Judd will receive his award at the Home Care Alliance Awards Luncheon on June 5, 2008. He will be accompanied by his family and office staff as well as officials from the Holyoke VNA and Hospice Life care. Dr. Judd and his wife, Diane have two children, Alex and Emily. Dr. Judd has been a doctor of internal medicine for 30 years. He has worked in Holyoke and has been a member of the Holyoke Medical Center medical staff for the past 26 years. Upon receiving notification that he had been chosen for the "Physician of the Year Award," Dr. Judd stated that "Caring for the patient is what is important to us. The reward for us is seeing patients feeling better and comforted." This exemplifies why Dr. Judd is so deserving of the honor.