

## Message to the Community

Dear Foundation Friends,

As the 59<sup>th</sup> year of the Foundation ends, we are honored and humbled by the continuing generosity of donors. Contributions exceeded \$2 million in 2007 and our endowment exceeded \$24 million. Through the permanent endowment, we were able to reinvest in our community more than \$1.3 million in grants and scholarships.

As we look forward to the celebration of our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary in the coming year, we reflect. We have learned many things from Emeritus Trustees, donors and community members. An Emeritus Trustee once asked, “Just what do you think is the Foundation’s purpose?” Slightly thrown by the question, grantmaking was emphasized. He said, and with careful emphasis, “The Foundation is first a donor service organization.” We’ve never forgotten the importance of that statement. Donors are our critical constituents, and without them, investing in our community would not be possible.

We are always cognizant of the fact that donors trust the Foundation to invest wisely and with great care. The Finance and Audit Committee continue their careful oversight of the Foundation’s assets. Investment earnings averaged nearly 7% in 2007 and the total administrative costs were maintained at 1.75% of total assets.

As the Foundation continues to grow and thrive, we will expand our horizons to include the Jackson Legacy Program that will play an important role in giving Jackson an “A.” We have so many resources in Jackson County and despite difficult economic times, there are many who give of themselves to make this an outstanding place to live, work and raise a family. While the launch of the Legacy Program has been enthusiastically supported, your help is necessary to allow us to reach all of the students that need help to go to college and become productive, prepared citizens.

We hope you enjoy the annual report. Thank you for being a part of improving the Jackson community. Please let us show you how JCF can help you make a difference. For **good**. For **ever**.

Shelly Saines, President & CEO

Kevin Lavery, MD Board Chair 2007-2008