



ORTHOPEDIC  
CENTER OF ILLINOIS  
FOUNDATION

## Press Release

1301 South Koke Mill Road • Springfield, IL 62711 • 217.547.9100 • [www.ocif.net](http://www.ocif.net)

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**SIU School of Medicine “ThinkFirst” Program is 2015 OCI Foundation Chip in fore Charity  
\$20,000 Grant Winner**

**SPRINGFIELD, IL, July 10, 2015**– The Orthopedic Center of Illinois Foundation (OCIF) today announced that SIU School of Medicine’s “ThinkFirst” program was selected to receive \$20,000 as the beneficiary for the 12th Annual OCIF Open: Chip in fore Charity. The community impact grant will be funded through proceeds from the OCIF annual golf outing scheduled for September 21 at Illini Country Club.

“We are really excited to partner with the ThinkFirst brain and spinal cord injury prevention program as the benefactor for our 12<sup>th</sup> annual event,” said OCIF Board Member Ron Romanelli, M.D. “Many very deserving organizations applied for the grant, but ultimately the mission of ThinkFirst paralleled that of the Foundation: to provide educational opportunities about health initiatives that impact our community.”

“We are honored and absolutely delighted to be the recipients of the Orthopedic Center of Illinois Foundation’s generous gift,” said Nancy Kyrouac, director of the ThinkFirst program at SIU School

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of Medicine. “Their partnership and support means that our mutual goals of preventing injury can move forward.”

Think First is a brain and spinal cord injury prevention program that works with children of all ages. Over the past 25 years, SIU School of Medicine’s ThinkFirst injury prevention programs have reached more than 400,000 people in central and southern Illinois through school presentations, crash reenactments, child passenger safety seats and bike helmets.

Through funds raised from the annual golf outing, OCIF has granted over \$200,000 to Springfield area organizations. Past grant recipients include: Central Illinois Foodbank (2004), Boys and Girls Club of Springfield (2005), Contact Ministries (2006), Southwind Park (2007), Big Brothers Big Sisters (2008), Sangamon County Child Advocacy Center (2009), the Springfield YMCA (2010), Camp Care-A-Lot (2011), Springfield Sharefest (2012), genHkids (2013), and Senior Olympics (2014).

For more information on the Foundation or to be a sponsor at this year’s event, please visit the OCIF website: [www.ocif.net](http://www.ocif.net) or call (217) 547-9100.

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