



July 5, 2012

Dear Parents,

Midwest Heart Foundation/Advocate Charity Foundation is pleased to bring the Young Hearts for Life® (YH4L) Cardiac Screening Program to Proviso West High School on September 27 & 28, 2012. All students whose parents authorize them to be tested will be screened. **Please be aware that repeat ECG testing is recommended every two years.**

Midwest Heart Foundation/Advocate Charity Foundation, 501(c) 3 non-profit public charity foundation, provide **free** cardiac screenings which include an ECG (electrocardiogram) and may include an echocardiogram to identify high school students at risk for sudden cardiac death and to increase the public's awareness of this issue. To date over 75,000 students have been screened as a result of the Young Hearts for Life® Cardiac Screening Program.

A simple ECG, when used to screen physically active young persons can detect certain serious heart conditions. Recording the electrical activity of the heart using electrodes attached to the skin with a mild adhesive, can detect approximately **60%** of the abnormalities or “markers” from these heart conditions that are associated with sudden cardiac death that a stethoscope cannot. **Please note that ECG screenings result in approximately 2% of the tests being falsely positive. This may require additional evaluation and testing by your physician. We believe that the benefit of this potentially life saving screening outweighs this concern.**

We encourage you to discuss this screening with your child. Your child's participation in the screening is your decision. We want to assure you that students' confidentiality, privacy and individual modesty will be respected throughout all aspects of the program. Only female technicians will test girls and they will be screened in an area separate from boys.

Enclosed you will find a permission form that will allow your son or daughter to be tested. We prefer that you complete this registration process on line. On line registration is now available. If you do not have access to a computer, please return the permission form to the school.

Young Hearts For Life® Cardiac Screening is being provided to Proviso West High School by Midwest Heart Foundation/Advocate Charity Foundation. For more information about this program, please visit our website at www.midwestheart.org If you have questions, please contact us at 630-785-4366.

Sincerely,

Joseph Marek, MD

Medical Director, Young Hearts for Life® Cardiac Screening