

Grant will help keep students healthy

By JOHN CHRISTIE
Staff Writer

MIDDLETOWN — The Community Health Center received a grant that will help Keigwin Middle School students stay healthy.

The center received \$327,000 in federal funding over the next three years — under the "Healthy Schools, Healthy Communities" — to open a full-service health clinic at Keigwin Middle School, which enrolls about 400 students.

Currently, the center runs health clinics for kindergarten through fifth-grade students at Macdonough Elementary School and seventh- and eighth-graders at Woodrow Wilson Middle School.

Superintendent David Larson said the new center "is truly a valuable asset to our school district."

The clinic should up and running by January 3.

"Only 12 grants were awarded nationwide. The quality of our services and our partnership with parents must have made it a real model nationwide," Center President Mark Masselli said. "Of course it doesn't hurt to have [U.S. Rep. Sam Gejdenson, D-2] making sure our application doesn't get lost in the wider world."

Gejdenson, who pushed for the grant said, "Without quality health care, our children can't focus on their studies. And the with the growing number of uninsured kids and adults in America, this kind of preventative care is necessary."

The program is not only for pre

WING

Middletown Press

Date: 9/99