



# ***NEWS RELEASE***

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**CONNECTICUT CHILDREN'S MEDICAL CENTER PARTNERS WITH WATERBURY HOSPITAL AND SAINT MARY'S HOSPITAL IN OPENING NEW PEDIATRIC INPATIENT UNIT**  
*12-Bed Unit Enhances Range Of Pediatric Services For Local Children And Families*

WATERBURY, Conn.— It was a happy start to the New Year for families throughout Greater Waterbury with the Jan. 5 opening of Connecticut Children's Medical Center's new Waterbury inpatient unit, located at Saint Mary's Hospital. Connecticut Children's—Waterbury is collaboration between the Medical Center, Waterbury Hospital and Saint Mary's Hospital that unifies the pediatric departments of the two Waterbury-based hospitals with a 12-bed unit that is owned and operated by Connecticut Children's.

“All three institutions brought a great deal of energy to this project and we are thrilled that our vision has become a reality,” said Martin J. Gavin, president and chief executive officer of Connecticut Children's. “We are all committed to working together to produce a unique, family-centered care approach that will deliver the very best in pediatric care.”

Connecticut Children's—Waterbury is located on the fourth floor of Saint Mary's Sacred Heart building; the home of the hospital's former pediatric unit. The comprehensive planning process—which began in early 2007—included representatives of all three hospitals as well as representatives of the Waterbury pediatric practitioner community. The unit received its Certificate of Need from the State of Connecticut's Office of Health Care Access last spring. The new arrangement allows the area's current pediatric health care providers to remain an integral part of the delivery process while increasing their access to a wider array of pediatric sub-specialty services and capabilities.

John H. Tobin, president and chief executive officer of Waterbury Hospital, said the partnership was driven by the fact that health care has changed over the years, and that most pediatric services are available in doctor's offices on an outpatient basis. And because of the lack of pediatric sub-specialists—such as pediatric surgeons and cardiologists—many community hospitals are caring for fewer numbers of pediatric inpatients.

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“This partnership reflects the changes that have occurred in pediatric medicine,” Tobin said. “But it’s a perfect fit because if a local child needs to be admitted to the hospital, they’ll receive the pediatric expertise of Connecticut Children’s right in their own backyard.”

Saint Mary’s Health System President and Chief Executive Officer Chad Wable, MS, MBA, FACHE, said this collaboration will allow the city’s hospitals to continue their tradition of providing exceptional care for pediatric patients throughout Greater Waterbury.

“This project is a reflection of our continued commitment to working with other local institutions to enhance the delivery of health care services in this community,” Wable said. “It also builds upon past collaborative successes in the Waterbury area and demonstrates our collective desire to put the health care needs of our community first.”

Partnerships between Connecticut Children’s and Waterbury Hospital are nothing new. In 1999, the two hospitals formed an affiliation agreement that included having pediatric sub-specialists from Connecticut Children’s providing outpatient care to children at Waterbury Hospital. The agreement also included experts from Connecticut Children’s providing ongoing medical education and training to physicians and nurses in the Waterbury Hospital Emergency Department.

*Connecticut Children’s is the region’s only academic medical center dedicated exclusively to the care of children. Offering a full range of services for children from birth through age 18, Connecticut Children’s brings quality care to children and families through 10 affiliated community hospitals and 16 practice locations.*

*For more information, please visit [www.connecticutchildrens.org](http://www.connecticutchildrens.org).*