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ECHN's New Outpatient Women's Center for Wellness Provides a First-Class Patient Experience 'East of the River'

Complete, Comprehensive Women's Health Services Now Delivered Under One Roof

South Windsor, Conn., Feb. 7, 2012 – Eastern Connecticut Health Network (ECHN) today celebrated the expansion of its outpatient, community-based campus at Evergreen Walk in South Windsor by cutting the ribbon to its new Women's Center for Wellness where women who live 'east of the river' will benefit from an array of comprehensive health services and a first-class patient experience – *delivered under one roof*.

The building located at 2600 Tamarack Avenue in South Windsor is now home to the Women's Center for Wellness and the ECHN Breast Care Collaborative on the first floor complemented by the services of the OBGYN Group of Eastern Connecticut on the second level. The services provided at the Women's Center for Wellness include digital mammography, bone density scans, integrative therapies such as acupuncture and therapeutic massage, educational resources, and the one-on-one expertise of a breast health nurse navigator.

What sets ECHN's Women's Center for Wellness apart from other hospitals that provide similar health care is that people rarely expect community-based suburban hospitals like ECHN to offer this level of complete, comprehensive services comparable to larger urban hospitals.

"It's a great day for ECHN, the Town of South Windsor and our patients who rely on ECHN. Our new building provides women who reside in eastern Connecticut the convenience of accessing complete and comprehensive health services in an exceptional health care environment closer to home and under one roof," **said Peter J. Karl, President & CEO**. "Despite some of the critical challenges hospitals are currently facing, our growing presence and commitment to towns like South Windsor shows ECHN remains steadfast in its mission of providing high-quality, compassionate health care east of the river."

"We want our patients to come to the Women's Center for Wellness feeling relaxed and comfortable while they are here and leave with the same peace-of-mind knowing they

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benefited from a first-class patient experience. At the Women’s Center for Wellness, someone is assigned to the patient right from the beginning who brings them through the range of services they expect and deserve from our community-based health care system,” **said Kim Palma, Operations Manager at ECHN’s Women’s Center for Wellness.**

“Connecticut has the second highest incidence rate of breast cancer in the U.S. In fact, towns such as South Windsor, Vernon, Glastonbury and East Hartford were singled out in a recent study by the Connecticut chapter of the Susan G. Komen for the Cure for having high mortality, high incidence, and high late stage rates of breast cancer,” **said Donna Cameron, Breast Health Nurse Navigator** . “My hope is that providing women in this area with convenient access to complete health services in their own backyard will present a greater incentive for them to visit us for their annual mammogram, among other wonderful benefits we provide at the new building.”

ECHN’s Breast Care Collaborative is a member of the National Consortium of Breast Centers.

Ms. Palma and Ms. Cameron added that they are looking at offering other services at the new building in the near future, including important programs focusing on nutrition, maternity wellness, adult weight loss, yoga, education and seminars.

In addition to the new Women’s Center for Wellness, ECHN’s South Windsor campus at Evergreen Walk includes Evergreen Imaging Center at 2800 Tamarack Avenue and Evergreen Endoscopy Center at 2400 Tamarack Avenue. ECHN’s CorpCare Occupational Health, currently located in Manchester, will soon relocate to the South Windsor campus.

Women’s Center for Wellness’ hours of operation are Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm; Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm. They are also open two Saturdays per month. For more information on the Women’s Center for Wellness or to make an appointment, please call 860-533-4646 or send an email to WCW@echn.org.

For more information on the ECHN Breast Care Collaborative or to speak with a member of the staff, please call 860-533-4696 or send an email to dcameron@echn.org.

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About ECHN

ECHN is a not-for-profit health care system serving 19 towns in eastern Connecticut. Its network of affiliates includes Manchester Memorial Hospital, Rockville General Hospital, Woodlake at Tolland Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, Eastern Connecticut Medical Professionals, Women’s Center for Wellness, Visiting Nurse & Health Services of CT, Eastern Connecticut Cancer Institute, and more. Visit our website at www.echn.org for more detailed information about the health system.

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