



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Springtime Brings Clear Air to CHA Campus

Wallingford, CT – Marking the first day of spring, the Connecticut Hospital Association is going totally “smoke-free” on March 20. As of this date, smoking will be prohibited on CHA property, including all building entrances, loading docks, parking areas, and in cars parked on the grounds.

On November 20, 2008, Connecticut hospitals began a two-year “smoke-free campus” initiative, striving to make all hospital campuses in the state totally smoke-free by November 2010. The statewide initiative, sponsored by Pfizer, was launched with the support of Connecticut Attorney General Richard Blumenthal, the American Cancer Society, the American Lung Association, the American Heart Association, and the Connecticut Department of Public Health.

To date, fifteen Connecticut hospitals have adopted smoke-free campuses, and others are well on their way to doing so. Though voluntary, it is anticipated that all Connecticut hospitals will be smoke-free inside and out by the 2010 target date.

“As an organization dedicated to improving the health of Connecticut residents, introducing a completely smoke-free environment is the right thing to do,” commented Jennifer Jackson, CHA President and CEO. “We are pleased that so many Connecticut hospitals now have smoke-free campuses. By joining the smoke-free initiative today, we hope to contribute to better health for our employees and those visiting our facility.”

For more information on the Connecticut hospital smoke-free campus initiative, please visit www.cthosp.org.

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The Connecticut Hospital Association has been dedicated to serving Connecticut’s Hospitals since 1919. Through state and federal advocacy, CHA represents the interests of Connecticut’s not-for-profit hospitals on key healthcare issues in the areas of quality and patient safety, access and coverage, workforce, public health, and hospital reimbursement.