

For Immediate Release

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SAINT FRANCIS FOOD BANK RECEIVES DIAPER DONATION

My Lil' Star To Provide 1.5 Million Diapers over Five Years

(HARTFORD, Conn.) – The Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center Emergency Food Bank today received an initial shipment of 200 cases of disposable diapers from My Lil' Star Baby Products, Inc.

Established by Steve Marcano in 2002, My Lil' Star is the first and only minority-owned-and-operated baby products company in the nation. In addition to diapers, My Lil' Star markets wipes, bibs, bottles and a line of clothing for children up to age six. The idea for the company came to Marcano while shopping with his youngest son. When the sales associate said "You must love working with a star," Marcano replied "I do, he's my little star."

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"This is an incredible gift that will be of tremendous assistance to the families that we serve," said Joan Dauber, R.D., C.D.-N., Director of the Food Bank.

My Lil' Star has pledged to deliver similar shipments of 200 cases of diapers monthly for the next five years, providing a total of 1.5 million diapers.

"When I learned of this gift I was overwhelmed," said Dauber. "This is unprecedented."

The diapers will be distributed to clients of the Emergency Food Bank, which provides food to 900 families a month who otherwise would have to choose between filling their prescriptions or buying food. Established in 1977, the Emergency Food Bank is the only hospital-based food bank in the country.

Founded in 1897, Saint Francis is a major teaching hospital licensed for 617 acute inpatient beds and 65 bassinets. It is the largest Catholic hospital in New England.