



NEWS RELEASE

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GENEROSITY OF DONORS PAVES WAY FOR CONNECTICUT CHILDREN'S TO CONSTRUCT NEW CLINICAL CARE CENTER FOR CANCER AND BLOOD DISORDERS

HARTFORD, Conn. — Connecticut Children's Medical Center has announced that it has successfully reached the \$5 million goal of its "*A Brighter Hope*" Campaign, which will result in the construction of a new outpatient Clinical Care Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders at the Medical Center.

Already home to the most comprehensive pediatric oncology program in Western New England, the new Clinical Care Center will allow Connecticut Children's to double its space devoted to its oncology and hematology programs. It will also allow the Medical Center to add technology, broaden its research and further integrate care in these areas. The end result is that by year's end, more children and families from across the region will have access to the specialized care that Connecticut Children's is known for.

Connecticut Children's Foundation Board Member Glen Greenberg serves as chairman of the "*A Brighter Hope*" Campaign and thanked the thousands of donors who realized that the increased demand for care at Connecticut Children's made achieving this campaign goal a necessity.

"This expansion could not happen without significant philanthropic support and we are grateful to everyone who made the success of this project a priority. We are truly blessed to have had such a wonderful outpouring of generosity from both individuals and organizations committed to seeing the best very best clinical care provided to children and families," he said.

J. Nathan Hagstrom, MD, division head of Hematology/Oncology at Connecticut Children's, said about 150 children in Connecticut are diagnosed with cancer every year. In 2009, outpatient visits in the division increased by 8 percent to nearly 12,000 visits, twice as many as 10 years ago.

"This increasing number of patient visits has put incredible pressure on our current physical space," said Dr. Hagstrom. "This new Clinical Care Center is a partnership between our staff and the families who receive care here, many of whom had significant input into its design. The Center will further Connecticut Children's role as a leader in providing the highest level of pediatric care through cutting-edge technology and increased involvement of the patient and family."

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The enhanced space will also better accommodate the future work of Connecticut Children's clinician/scientists and the clinical trials team who are at the heart of the Medical Center's participation as a key member of the Children's Oncology Group, an international consortium that seeks to cure or prevent childhood cancers through scientific discovery.

Construction of the new Clinical Care Center has already begun and is expected to conclude later this year. When complete, the Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders will include:

- **8,000 square feet of clinical care space**—Current facilities are 4,000 square feet including the second floor clinic and the eighth floor transfusion suite
- **Seven exam rooms**—Current facilities have three exam rooms that are located in the second floor clinic
- **Four private infusion rooms**—Current facilities have seating for three patients in a common area in the second floor clinic
- **Four private “day treatment” hospital rooms**—Current facilities have beds for four patients in the transfusion suite in a semi-private area on the eighth floor
- **On-site blood laboratory**
- **Access to expanded waiting areas, a family consult room, a playroom and patient and family resource library**