



For Immediate Release

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**SAINT FRANCIS CARE OPENS DEDICATED PRIMARY CARE PRACTICE
FOR CITY AND STATE EMPLOYEES**

*Saint Francis Care Connect@City Hall Delivers Healthcare Services
to City and State Employees*

(Hartford, CT) – The City of Hartford, State of Connecticut, and Saint Francis Care are pleased to announce the opening of Saint Francis Care Connect@City Hall, a primary care practice dedicated to the healthcare needs and well-being of City and State employees.

“We are extremely pleased to have the opportunity to have world-class healthcare offered in City Hall. Expanding access to preventative care and promoting wellness have been a focus of mine since taking office, and this new partnership will be a great asset for Connecticut’s Capital City,” said Mayor Pedro E. Segarra.

Saint Francis Care Connect@City Hall is a 1,000-square-foot space on the ground floor of City Hall, at the Prospect Street entrance, that has been renovated to accommodate two exam rooms, a receptionist and waiting area.

The office of the State Comptroller is responsible for administering the employee and retiree health care plan, covering over 200,000 lives. This year, the office has implemented a new Health Enhancement Program that places greater emphasis on primary care and preventive services. Employees, retirees, and their families receive incentives for complying with all of the preventive care requirements.

Thomas C. Woodruff, Ph.D., Director of the Office of the State Comptroller's Healthcare Policy & Benefits Services division, represented Comptroller Kevin Lembo at the event.

"This facility will significantly improve health care access downtown, where more than 12,000 state employees work every day. We look forward to using this facility to improve health care access and compliance with the state's Health Enhancement Program," said Woodruff.

While all operations will be overseen by a Saint Francis physician, a Saint Francis Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) will be available Monday thru Friday from 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. The site will provide treatment and services exclusively to City and State employees and their families for minor illnesses such as allergy symptoms, cough, pink eye, sore/strep throat, upper respiratory infection, ear ache, urinary tract infection, minor cuts and burns, ankle/knee sprains, bug bites, etc. Health screenings include asthma, blood pressure, diabetes (glucose) and other lab testing referrals. Testing includes blood sugar, flu, cholesterol, pregnancy, etc.

“With thousands of City and State employees in a concentrated area, there is a significant need to treat minor illnesses or conduct routine screenings on a daily, walk-in basis. We believe that the convenience of a primary care practice located within the walls of City Hall will enable more employees to be seen and treated promptly, and with appropriate referrals made in a timely manner,” said Christopher Dadlez, President, and Chief Executive Officer, Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center.

The site offers convenience for employees who have basic healthcare needs and cannot get in to see their primary care physician, or for employees without a usual source of primary care. The practice will communicate electronically, by fax or by phone, with patients’ primary care physicians to ensure continuity of care. For patients without a primary care physician, a referral to a primary care physician will be made. For more complex needs, the practice will navigate patients to appropriate providers who are convenient for the patient.

About Saint Francis *Care*

Saint Francis *Care* is an integrated healthcare delivery system established by Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, an anchor institution in north central Connecticut since 1897. Licensed for 617 beds and 65 bassinets, it is a major teaching hospital and the largest Catholic hospital in New England. Other major entities of Saint Francis Care include The Mount Sinai Rehabilitation Hospital, the Connecticut Joint Replacement Institute, the Hoffman Heart and Vascular Institute of Connecticut, the Saint Francis/Mount Sinai Regional Cancer Center, and the Joyce D. and Andrew J.

Mandell Center for Comprehensive Multiple Sclerosis Care. Its services are supported by a network of five major Access Centers and eight additional medical office centers sited throughout the region. For more information, visit www.stfranciscare.com.