



For Immediate Release
June 13, 2019

Contact: Fiona Phelan
Manager, Communications and Public Relations
(203) 294-7206
Phelan@chime.org

CHA to Recognize Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center's James Carilli as a Healthcare Hero

WALLINGFORD – At its 101st Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 20, 2019, the Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) will recognize James Carilli, Interventional Radiology Technologist, Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, as a 2019 Healthcare Hero. He was nominated by Elia Smalls for this award.

When he was six years old, Mr. Carilli was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia. Leukemia is the most common cancer in children and teens, accounting for almost one out of three cancers.

Today, Mr. Carilli has been cancer free for 27 years. His personal health history led to his interest in medicine and decision to work in the field of radiology. Mr. Carilli has worked in Radiology at Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center since 2008 and was a Colleague of the Month winner in 2017.

Mr. Carilli founded the Drive to Survive Foundation, which holds an annual Halloween event to raise money to help families with children who have been diagnosed with cancer. The organization also seeks to provide positive inspiration to help fight childhood cancer. The success of last year's event provided financial support to help two families in need.

"James is extremely passionate about helping kids with cancer. He is a role model and shows them that they can also beat this disease as he has for the past 27 years. If anyone is a "Healthcare Hero", James most certainly is," said Elia Smalls, his co-worker and nominator.

Mr. Carilli also uses his passion for monster trucks to raise awareness about childhood cancer. Along with his brother Joe, Mr. Carilli operates Carilli Brothers Motorsports, and together they showcase their trucks Valiant Warrior and Fighting Chance at area events to raise awareness about cancer.

CHA's Healthcare Heroes award was developed in 2002 to celebrate the invaluable contributions of healthcare workers, both to their field and to the community at large. Now in its 17th year, the presentation of the Healthcare Heroes awards has become a highlight of CHA's Annual Meeting.



###

About CHA

The Connecticut Hospital Association has been dedicated to serving Connecticut's hospitals and health systems since 1919. Through state and federal advocacy, CHA represents the interests of Connecticut's hospitals and health systems on key healthcare issues in the areas of quality and patient safety, access and coverage, workforce, community health, health equity, and hospital reimbursement.