



For Immediate Release
June 13, 2013

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Connecticut Hospital Association to Recognize Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center's David S. Shapiro, MD, FACS, as a 2013 Healthcare Hero

WALLINGFORD – At its 95th Annual Meeting on June 25, the Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) will recognize David S. Shapiro, MD, FACS, Director, Surgical Clinics; Director, Medical Student Surgical Clerkship; and Associate Director, Surgical Critical Care, Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, as a 2013 Healthcare Hero. He was nominated for this award by Alisa Dzananovic.

Dr. Shapiro interacts with patients of all ages and backgrounds who are faced with either critical illnesses or unforeseen circumstances including car accidents, gun-violence-related injuries, and more. As Director of Surgical Clinics, Medical Student Surgical Clerkship Director, and Associate Director of Surgical Critical Care, Dr. Shapiro's resume reflects a myriad of accomplishments. He is triple-board certified in General Surgery, Critical Care, and Hospice and Palliative Care Medicine, and is a Fellow of the National Patient Safety Foundation, the American College of Surgeons, and the American College of Critical Care Medicine. He is well-published, and is a frequent guest lecturer at local and national conferences.

What makes him a true healthcare hero, though, is that these accomplishments and all his efforts are driven by his unwavering dedication to his patients – fueling a unique approach to patient care. To Dr. Shapiro, patient care means providing exceptional care to the *whole* person. This means taking care of their life-threatening injuries and providing often-forgotten steps to ensure the physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being of his patients and families.

It is not unusual for patients to receive handwritten notes from Dr. Shapiro following their surgery, giving them guidance through their recovery. He is a champion of family presence at the bedside, especially during critical situations, and he is often the leading force behind including loved ones in decision making.

Additionally, Dr. Shapiro is an active leader in several local and statewide efforts including The Commissioner's Task Force on Teen Safe Driving, the Hartford Regional Shooting Taskforce, and the Community Gun Buyback, now known as the Capitol Region Gun Buyback. He has volunteered his time with organizations like the local South Park Inn Shelter. Nationally, he has volunteered his time as the physician for the Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association (most cowboys are underinsured or not insured). He has also taken his passion for helping patients overseas, and has traveled to Costa Rica, Belize, Ecuador, Bolivia, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, and Haiti on surgical brigades aimed at helping educate local providers and to both study and provide surgical services to those in need. Dr. Shapiro is also an educator and a favorite among residents and students. His leadership earned him the *Best Faculty Teacher Award* by the UConn School of Medicine in 2010 and 2013.

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 12th year, the presentation of the Healthcare Heroes awards has become a highlight of CHA's Annual Meeting.



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About CHA

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 hospitals on key healthcare issues in the areas of quality and patient safety, access and coverage, workforce, community health, diversity, and hospital reimbursement.