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Connecticut Hospital Association to Recognize Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center's Marisol Feliciano as a 2013 Healthcare Hero

WALLINGFORD – At its 95th Annual Meeting on June 25, the Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) will recognize Marisol Feliciano, Violence and Injury Prevention Program Coordinator, Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, as a 2013 Healthcare Hero. She was nominated for this award by Kristen Durocher.

The Trauma Team at Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center sees horrific injuries every day. One person in the Trauma Service has a job that is truly unique: Marisol Feliciano's sole purpose is to help prevent these visits to the emergency department by reaching out to the community through comprehensive educational programs.

As the Violence and Injury Prevention Program Coordinator, Marisol is responsible for the *Let's Not Meet By Accident* program. This educational program encourages teens to make healthy decisions in risky situations. Introduced at Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, the program has been adopted by hospitals across the country. Students are invited to the hospital to participate in a mock trauma in the ED. They also visit the helipad to witness LifeStar arriving carrying simulated accident victims. Topics cover drunk driving, bullying, teen suicides, and drug use.

Marisol also developed the *Elder Falls Prevention Program*. She is also a national leader with the *Kids In Safety Seats (KISS)* program, and she created a *Community Baby Shower* where expectant mothers learn how to prepare for baby and make their homes safe. Additionally, Marisol runs the *Ready to Roll Bike Rodeo Program* helmet safety program.

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.