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For Immediate Release

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MEDIA ADVISORY

Lea's Foundation Pledges \$555,000 for Leukemia Research at Saint Francis

- Who:** Lea's Foundation for Leukemia Research and the Saint Francis Foundation
- What:** \$555,000 Pledge for Leukemia Research; 20th Anniversary Valentine's Ball
- Where:** Downtown Hartford Marriott, 200 Columbus Blvd.
- When:** Saturday, February 8, 2014, 6 p.m. - Midnight

Lea's Foundation for Leukemia Research, Inc., will announce a \$555,000 pledge for leukemia research to be conducted at the Saint Francis/Mount Sinai Regional Cancer Center over the next three years.

The funds provided by Lea's Foundation will be utilized to coordinate and support participation in clinical trials to test recently discovered new cancer treatment drugs.

Lea's Foundation for Leukemia Research, Inc. was formed in 1998 to honor the memory of Lea Michele Economos, who at the young age of 18 was diagnosed with leukemia, and subsequently lost her battle when she was only 28 years old. Lea's Foundation raises money to fund research into the causes of and cures for leukemia and its related cancers (lymphoma, Hodgkin's lymphoma and multiple myeloma). Lea's Foundation also provides some limited financial assistance to patients affected by leukemia and similar blood-related diseases. The Foundation further provides increased public awareness of these cancers through its participation and support of community health care programs. All of the money raised by the Lea's Foundation stays in Connecticut.

The Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center Foundation operates exclusively to advance the charitable, scientific and educational purposes of the Hospital through relationship building, community visibility and fund raising.

The Foundation also focuses on major gifts and planned gifts to build Saint Francis' endowment to enable the Hospital to sustain its services to the community for generations to come.