



For Immediate Release

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Contact: Fiona Phelan
Media Relations Manager
860-714-1076/ 860-712-8517
FPhelan@stfranciscare.org

Contact: Annmarie Seldon
Stop & Shop New England Division
(617) 276-7756
aseldon@webershandwick.com

SAINT FRANCIS *FASTCARE* CLINIC OPENS IN STOP & SHOP IN SIMSBURY

Daily, Convenient Care On-Site

(Hartford, Conn. – November 10, 2014) The first *Saint Francis FastCare* retail primary care clinic offering convenient and economical healthcare for minor conditions and symptoms opened at the Super Stop & Shop supermarket in Simsbury today.

This is the first in-store primary care clinic of its kind in a supermarket in Central Connecticut. The 585-square-foot space is part of an exclusive licensing agreement with Green Bay, WI-based Bellin Memorial Hospital, Inc., and Ahold USA, Inc., parent company of Stop & Shop, to operate the *Saint Francis FastCare* clinic at 498 Bushy Hill Road, Simsbury.

Along with a ribbon-cutting ceremony, Saint Francis and Stop & Shop welcomed visitors to the new clinic with a face painter for children and the opportunity for shoppers to win a Stop & Shop gift card.

A second *Saint Francis FastCare* will open in the Manchester Stop & Shop at 286 Broad Street, later this year. These will be the first two *Saint Francis FastCare* locations in the greater Hartford area, and the only primary care clinics located within a supermarket in Central Connecticut.

“Providing access to high-quality healthcare is extremely important to Saint Francis,” said Christopher M. Dadlez, President and Chief Executive Officer at Saint Francis. “This *Saint Francis FastCare* partnership with Stop & Shop will allow us to better serve the community by offering non-urgent medical care, right here, right now.”

“This is an exciting opportunity for us to partner with and offer healthcare services through Saint Francis,” said Joe Kelley, President, Stop & Shop New England Division. “Health and wellness programs and initiatives have always been a focus for us. Customers are always asking us for ways to save time, money and focus on health, and this venture allows us to provide customers and the community options for care in an easy and convenient one-stop location especially with the Stop & Shop Pharmacy onsite as well.”

Saint Francis FastCare will provide care for common, non-urgent illnesses and ailments such as cold and flu symptoms; administration of flu and shingles vaccines, along with standard vaccinations for adults and children; ear infections, insect bites, poison ivy, minor sunburn, ear wax removal, sinus infection, and sore throat. On-site tests for rapid strep, urinalysis, urine pregnancy test, monospots and TB skin tests will also be available.

Saint Francis FastCare welcomes patients 18 months of age or older on a walk-in basis. Age restrictions may exist for select services. Immediate referrals will be made to a physician when symptoms exceed the clinic's scope of services.

With the added convenience of the Stop & Shop Pharmacy on-site, patients can meet their basic healthcare needs in one convenient location. Prescriptions may also be arranged for pick-up at other locations.

After each visit, a report will be sent to the patient's primary care physician. For patients without a primary care physician, referrals can be made at a patient's request.

Patients should always visit the Saint Francis Emergency Department for any life-threatening situations.

Saint Francis FastCare accepts most insurances and an office co-pay will apply. A *FastCare* visit is \$79, including basic labs.

Saint Francis FastCare at the Stop & Shop in Simsbury will be open Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Sunday, 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.; and Holidays (except Easter and Christmas) 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. No appointments are necessary. Facilities are staffed by Saint Francis *Care* Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) who are licensed to prescribe medications.

Bellin Health, a not-for-profit, integrated healthcare delivery system that has been servicing Northeast Wisconsin and Michigan's Upper Peninsula since 1908, developed the *FastCare* brand of convenient care clinics in 2006. *FastCare* partners with health systems and retailers nationwide to offer convenient healthcare services in the community. To date, there are 30 *FastCare* locations operating in 10 states with 20 health systems partners.

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, the Joyce D. and Andrew J. Mandell Center for Comprehensive Multiple Sclerosis Care and Neuroscience Research, and Saint Francis Health*Care* Partners. Johnson Memorial Medical Center, parent organization of Johnson Memorial Hospital, Evergreen Health Care Center, and Home and Community Health Services is also a Saint Francis *Care* Partner. Saint Francis *Care*'s 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.

About FastCare

The *FastCare* model of retail health clinics was established by Bellin Health in 2006. Bellin Health is a not-for-profit, integrated health care delivery system that has been servicing Northeast Wisconsin and Michigan's Upper Peninsula since 1908. Known for its emphasis on population health, Bellin Health is the region's leader in cardiac, orthopedic, digestive health, mental health and primary care services.

To ensure quality health services, Bellin developed the *FastCare* model on the guidelines for retail clinics as defined by the American Academy of Family Physicians, the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American Medical Association. These include having a well-defined and limited scope of clinical services, treatment plans that are evidence-based, having a system for referring patients to physicians when symptoms exceed the clinic's scope of services, and integration of electronic medical records. *FastCare* partners with health systems and retailers across the country to create affordable and convenient patient access to healthcare. More information about *FastCare* is available at www.FastCare.com. For more information on Bellin Health see www.bellin.org.

About Stop & Shop

The Stop & Shop Supermarket Company LLC employs approximately 59,000 associates and operates 394 stores throughout Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York and New Jersey. The company helps support local communities fight hunger, combat childhood cancer and promote general health and wellness – with emphasis on children's educational and support programs. In its commitment to be a sustainable company, Stop & Shop is a member of the U.S. Green Building Council and EPA's Smart Way program; and has been recognized by the EPA for the superior energy management of its stores. Stop & Shop is an Ahold company. To learn more about Stop & Shop, visit www.stopandshop.com or www.facebook.com/stopandshop.