



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kaitlin Rocheleau
Trinity Health Of New England
W: 860-714-1076 C: 860-794-4954
Kaitlin.Rocheleau@TrinityHealthOfNE.org

Contact: Stephanie Valickis
Saint Mary's Hospital
W: 203-709-6240 C: 860-307-8888
Stephanie.Valickis@trinityhealthofne.org

Contact: Mary Orr
Mercy Medical Center
W: 413-748-7217 C: 413-530-4718
Mary.Orr@trinityhealthofne.org

Contact: Brianna Barnes
Saint Francis Hospital
W: 860-714-6070 C: 860-367-6187
Brianna.Barnes@TrinityHealthOfNE.org

Two Trinity Health Of New England Healthcare "Superheroes" to Attend Super Bowl LV Thanks to Kraft Family

The pair will join other providers on trip to recognize their dedication throughout the pandemic and raise awareness about the importance of getting vaccinated

HARTFORD, Conn. (February 2, 2021) – Matthew Blouin, RN, Saint Francis Hospital, and Cherie Rodriguez, RT, Mercy Medical Center, will join 74 additional healthcare providers from all six New England states for a once-in-a-lifetime experience on Sunday, February 7. As guests of the Kraft family, these healthcare "superheroes" will be granted an all-expenses paid trip to Super Bowl LV in Tampa, Fla., including roundtrip travel on the Patriots team plane.

The mission of this trip is two-fold: to recognize and thank a representative group of the countless healthcare superheroes in New England, and to celebrate and spread the important message of getting vaccinated. In their respective roles, both Blouin and Rodriguez have worked closely with COVID-19 patients in each of their hospitals, providing the care and therapy necessary for the best possible outcome. Their selection for this recognition was the result of a lottery drawing with the names of eligible colleagues throughout the regional health ministry.

"Matthew and Cherie are outstanding clinicians whose unwavering dedication to their patients sets the standard for safe, high quality care, even during the most difficult times. They are also excellent examples of the type of colleague we are so fortunate to have throughout Trinity Health Of New England," said Reginald Eadie, MD, MBA, President and CEO of Trinity Health Of New England. "The

pandemic has posed new and significant challenges for healthcare providers and support staff at every level. Often putting aside fears for their own health and safety, they have met these challenges with clinical excellence, adaptability, professionalism and grace."

"Last April, when our plane returned with masks from China, we never could have imagined the devastation this pandemic would cause, nor could we have dreamed of the heroic stories and achievements that have come to be as a result, especially the dedication of healthcare workers on the front lines and the creation of safe and effective vaccines," said Patriots Chairman and CEO Robert Kraft. "Ten months later, it's an honor for us to celebrate these healthcare workers by giving them a well-deserved break for a day and an opportunity to enjoy the Super Bowl, a reality that is only made possible because of the vaccines. We hope that in doing so, others are also encouraged to get vaccinated as they are able. Once again, we want to say thank you from the bottom of our hearts to all of the healthcare heroes who have risked their well-being to ensure ours. They are truly superheroes to us."

The 76 healthcare workers hail from all six New England states and represent a range of hospitals and roles, all of which have been supporting COVID-19 units during the pandemic. The Kraft family offered four tickets to each of the governors outside of Massachusetts, who then selected healthcare superheroes from their respective states, for a total of 20 individuals representing Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. The remaining tickets were distributed to many of the not-for-profit hospitals throughout the Commonwealth of Massachusetts that continue to care for COVID-19 patients. All attending healthcare workers have been fully vaccinated no later than January 24, or 14 days prior to travel.

In addition to one Super Bowl LV ticket and the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to fly on the Patriots team plane, the 76 healthcare workers selected for this trip will also receive the following, courtesy of the Kraft family with help from the NFL: transportation from Gillette Stadium to Logan Airport with police escort, a ticket to the NFL TikTok Tailgate concert headlined by Miley Cyrus exclusively for vaccinated healthcare workers, a two-night complimentary hotel stay provided by Mark Stebbins and Leo Xarras of XSS Hotels, owner of both the Renaissance Hotel and Hilton Garden Inn at Patriot Place, a Patriots gift bag, a \$100 VISA gift card to spend at Raymond James Stadium and ground transportation in Tampa.

The healthcare superheroes will depart from Boston Logan Airport the morning of Sunday, February 7. The guests will arrive and board the Patriots plane from the very same hangar that received the plane filled with 1.2 million respirator masks on April 2, 2020. Patriots Chairman and CEO Robert Kraft will then greet these superheroes upon arrival at Tampa International Airport. Once in Tampa, they will attend the NFL TikTok Tailgate concert, followed by the Super Bowl. They will return to Boston on the Patriots team plane after the game, arriving back at Gillette Stadium to complete their rewarding and memorable day.

###

About Trinity Health Of New England

Trinity Health Of New England is an integrated nonprofit health care delivery system formed in 2015 and is a member of Trinity Health located in Livonia, Michigan, one of the largest multi-institutional Catholic health care delivery systems in the nation serving communities in 22 states. Trinity Health Of New England is comprised of Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center and Mount Sinai Rehabilitation Hospital in Hartford, Connecticut; Johnson Memorial Hospital and Home & Community Health Services in Stafford Springs, Connecticut; Saint Mary's Hospital in Waterbury, Connecticut; Mercy Medical Center in Springfield, Massachusetts; Providence Behavioral Health Hospital in Holyoke, Massachusetts; Mercy's Rehabilitation Hospital, Springfield, Massachusetts; and Brightside for Families and Children. Visit TrinityHealthOfNE.org for more information and follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter @THOfNewEngland