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Contact: Leslie Gianelli

(203) 294-7213, Gianelli@chime.org

Hospital Campuses Go "Smoke-Free" to Mark Great American Smokeout

Wallingford, CT – Seven Connecticut hospitals went completely smoke-free today as part of the Connecticut Hospital Smoke-Free Campus Initiative. The two-year voluntary program has resulted thus far in 22 hospitals across the state implementing smoke-free campuses since the initiative began in November 2008.

Today also marks the date of the American Cancer Society's annual Great American Smokeout. Connecticut hospitals and the Connecticut Chapter of the American Cancer Society have partnered to share resources on this important statewide initiative.

Hospitals launching a smoke-free campus today include: Connecticut Children's Medical Center, Hartford Hospital, Norwalk Hospital, Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, Saint Mary's Hospital, the Hospital of Saint Raphael, and Waterbury Hospital. A map of hospitals going smoke-free is available here.

"Consistent with the mission of hospitals, eliminating smoking from hospital campuses will provide a healthier, cleaner, and safer environment for patients, staff, and visitors. Hospitals are to be commended for taking this important step to promote community health," commented Jennifer Jackson, CEO of the Connecticut Hospital Association.

For further information on this initiative, please visit the Connecticut Hospitals Smoke-Free Campus Initiative website.

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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 not-for-profit hospitals on key healthcare issues in the areas of quality and patient safety, access and coverage, workforce, public health, and hospital reimbursement.