



Saint Anne's Hospital

A CARITAS FAMILY HOSPITAL

795 Middle Street
Fall River, MA 02721

Media release

Contact: Anne Ferreira, Public Relations and Marketing
Office 508-235-5294
Fax 508-235-5012
E-mail: Anne.Ferreira@CaritasChristi.org
www.SaintAnnesHospital.org

For release: April 26, 2010

**Saint Anne's Hospital breaks ground for all-new Emergency Department and Surgical Center
*Saint Anne's \$19.6 million projects are among seven Caritas Christi initiatives totaling \$100 million that will bring state-of-the-art, high-quality services to eastern Massachusetts***

Fall River, MA – Today, Saint Anne's Hospital officials broke ground on an all-new Emergency Department and expanded Surgical Center that will accommodate patient demand and new technology. The new \$19.6 million project will double the hospital's capacity to care for emergency patients and add a suite of new operating rooms, post-anesthesia care units and related renovations to meet the growth and complexity of surgical cases.

"These projects are the realization of a vision and a true demonstration of Saint Anne's longtime commitment to our community," said Craig A. Jesiolowski, president of Saint Anne's Hospital. "When the Dominican Sisters started taking care of patients at Saint Anne's more than 100 years ago, they did so in service to the community. Our new Emergency Department and Surgical Center will be an extension of that same noble commitment and will enable us to do so in a modern, spacious and comfortable environment."

Saint Anne's Emergency Department and Surgical Center projects, scheduled for completion in mid-2011, are the first of seven Caritas Christi infrastructure improvement projects to break ground. The projects, spread among the six Caritas Christi hospitals, total more than 117,000 square feet and represent a capital investment of more than \$100 million. A significant capital commitment by Cerberus Capital Management enabled Caritas Christi to begin construction and provides the funding to complete the projects in a timely manner. The projects include three new emergency departments and two new surgical centers; and new technology and facilities, such as CT and other diagnostic imaging, endoscopy, cardiac catheterization, surgical robots, and cancer care.

Caritas Christi's infrastructure projects are creating new jobs in areas that have some of the highest unemployment in the Commonwealth. With hospitals in Fall River, Brockton, Dorchester, Norwood, Boston, and Methuen, Caritas Christi's building projects are creating more than 4,300 potential new jobs, including 110 design, engineering and consulting jobs, 500 construction jobs, 500 new jobs from hospital projects, and more than 3,700 related stimulus jobs.

Saint Anne's annual emergency visits, which have averaged more than 35,000 in recent years, are on track to top 40,000 this year. To help meet this need, the all-new 17,900-square-foot Emergency Department will include 27 treatment bays (currently 21), two trauma/cardiac treatment areas, a dedicated pediatric care area, and specialized gynecology and isolation areas. Other highlights include a centrally located nurses' station that provides continuous visibility of patients, and a separate, expanded ambulance area. In total, the new ED will be more spacious, provide greater capacity, and enhance patient privacy.

Likewise, the new 16,500-square-foot Surgical Center has been designed to accommodate a growing number of patients and increasingly advanced surgical procedures. The center's six operating rooms will include three new, state-of-the-art, 700-square-foot operating rooms; six new adult post-anesthesia care, or recovery, areas; a private pediatric recovery room; and an isolation room. The center will also feature a new nurses' station, case cart system, sub-sterile area, surgeon dictation workstations, and staff facilities.

Architect for the projects is R.F. Walsh Collaborative Partners, and the general contractor is Suffolk Construction, both of Boston.

What you should know during construction at Saint Anne's Hospital

- During construction, Saint Anne's Emergency Department and operating rooms will be fully operational. Emergency services are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- The Emergency Department entrance on Middle Street is now closed to all vehicular and foot traffic, *except* emergency (911) ambulances.
- Access to most services, including the Emergency Department, is now through the hospital's main entrance on South Main Street. This entrance is open and staffed 24 hours a day.
- Due to limited on-site and on-street parking, patients and visitors are strongly encouraged to use free valet parking. This service is available Monday-Friday at the following entrances:
 - Main entrance, South Main Street
 - "Blue Lot" entrance, South Main Street
 - Hudner Oncology Center, Osborn Street

Saint Anne's Hospital (www.SaintAnnesHospital.org) is a community hospital with comprehensive inpatient, outpatient, and emergency care services, serving adults and children in southeastern Massachusetts and nearby Rhode Island.

Founded in 1906 by the Dominican Sisters of the Presentation, Saint Anne's Hospital is a member of Caritas Christi, the largest community-based healthcare system in New England and the 10th largest employer in Massachusetts. Specialized centers and services include Saint Anne's Hospital Regional Cancer Care; the Robert F. Stoico/FIRSTFED Center for Breast Care; Caritas Diabetes Center; the Center for Pain Management; geriatric psychiatry; pediatrics (including inpatient care and specialty outpatient medical, behavioral and developmental care through the Fernandes Center for Children & Families); adult and pediatric rehabilitation; cardiovascular care; and primary care.

