

Samuels Sinclair Dental Center at RIH helps to 'Give Kids a Smile'

PROVIDENCE – On April 4th the Samuels Sinclair Dental Center celebrated the 12th annual “Give Kids a Smile Day” (GKAS) with underserved, uninsured and underinsured children throughout Rhode Island receiving dental care in clinics and private dental offices statewide. Eighty-seven children received dental care at Rhode Island Hospital's event.

“Dentists, hygienists and dental assistants from private practices, and other volunteers donated their time and talents along with the staff at the Samuels Sinclair Dental Center to make this event happen for the 12th year now,” said **SHIRLEY SPATER FREEDMAN, DMD**, center director. “We were able to provide chair-side education, preventive and restorative care to dozens of low-income children who don't have access to dental care, ultimately providing them with a dental home, and a much needed level of primary care.”

As the centerpiece to National Children's Dental Health Month, and sponsored by the Rhode Island Dental Association and the American Dental Association, GKAS was designed to provide dental care to low-income children who would not otherwise have access to care, while also raising awareness of the importance of dental coverage for children's health.

The event included visits from Paws, the PawSox mascot, a group of superheroes, pet therapy dogs and the Tooth Fairy. Members of Team Hasbro, Hasbro, Inc's employee volunteer program, brought toys and games to entertain the children while they waited to see their dentist and dental hygienist, many for the very first time. Dental supplies for the day were donated by national sponsor Henry Schein and Patterson Dental. ❖



RHODE ISLAND HOSPITAL

Children received dental screenings, oral examinations, radiographs, cleanings, fillings and educational materials at Rhode Island Hospital's Samuels Sinclair Dental Center.

Hasbro Designated Level 1 Pediatric Trauma Center by ACS

PROVIDENCE – Hasbro Children's Hospital, the pediatric division of Rhode Island Hospital, has been designated a Level 1 Pediatric Trauma Center by the American College of Surgeons (ACS). This is the first time the hospital has been verified specifically for the care of injured children. Rhode Island Hospital has been a Level 1 Adult Trauma Center for more than 20 years, and has been reverified.

Hasbro Children's Hospital had previously been included as a “pediatric commitment” in the Rhode Island Hospital Level 1 Trauma Center certification, but is now eligible to apply for standalone Level 1 status under the new ACS guidelines. The two hospitals are the only Level 1 Trauma Centers in Rhode Island.

This three-year certification is the highest designation a trauma center can receive, and recognizes the hospital's dedication to providing optimal care for injured patients. Level 1 trauma centers provide a full range of services, including designation as an academic medical center, conducting research and providing medical education.

“This certification is a validation of the fully coordinated, multidisciplinary care we have been providing to injured children since Hasbro Children's Hospital opened its doors 20 years ago,” said **FRANCOIS LUKS, MD**, director of pediatric trauma. “It is the first time that we have sought – and obtained – independent verification for the care we provide to injured children, and that is a recognition of how comprehensive our pediatric trauma care has become.”

To qualify as a Level I trauma center, a hospital must be fully prepared to treat victims of traumatic injuries – from

falls, car crashes, gunshots, assaults, etc. – and offer the highest level of medical and surgical care, with surgeons and anesthesiologists on duty 24 hours a day. Level 1 trauma centers must have a wide range of specialists, such as orthopedic surgeons and neurosurgeons, promptly available if needed, and be involved in education and efforts to prevent traumatic injuries in the community.

Dr. Luks added that the designation means the hospital has to be ready for anything. “Being a Level 1 Trauma Center means that whoever comes through our doors, regardless of the type of injury, we are prepared to offer the entire spectrum of care,” he said. “This means more than just initial life-saving efforts, ready and available at a moment's notice, but also everything a patient needs throughout the entirety of his or her healing process.”

To be verified as a trauma center, Hasbro Children's Hospital underwent an on-site review earlier this year under the guidelines established by the ACS. The criteria the hospital must meet and maintain include:

- An ongoing quality assurance program.
- Standard response for treatment of major trauma.
- Nurses trained and experienced in delivering acute care.
- Operating rooms open and staffed around the clock.
- State-of-the-art imaging and monitoring equipment to provide quick evaluation and diagnosis.
- Rescue squads and response teams that are prepared to maximize pre-hospital care and fast transport. ❖