

Immediate Release

Contact:

Hiran J. Ratnayake

(302) 327-3327

HRatnayake@ChristianaCare.org

Christiana Care and Middletown High School Mark 30th Anniversary of First School-Based Health Center in Delaware

(WILMINGTON, Del. – March 9) [Christiana Care Health System](#) and Middletown High School will celebrate three decades of service by the first school-based health center opened in the state of Delaware from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. Tuesday, March 17th at Middletown High School.

Middletown High School's school based health center – operated by Christiana Care since 2011 – was created by the Delaware Division of Public Health at the beginning of the 1985 school year to increase access to care for students with health needs. The school-based health center at Middletown High School is staffed by a clinical social worker, nurse practitioner and registered dietician.

“These programs help keep teenagers in school and provide them access to care from knowledgeable staff members who are connected to their community,” said Mary M. Stephens, M.D., MPH, medical director of Christiana Care's School-Based Health Centers. “By caring for students in their own community, we also are able to provide value-based care in a close, protective haven and educate them on what they can do to help keep themselves safe and healthy.”

One of only 50 in the country at its opening, the success of Middletown High School's school based health center has led to the creation of similar centers in 28 other Delaware schools.

Christiana Care manages 15 school based health centers that experienced 21,000 visits by students in the centers last school year. Those centers provide one-on-one medical treatment, mental health services, family counseling, health education, sports and school physicals and other services intended to augment the services provided by each student's primary care physician.

For more information about Christiana Care's school based health centers, visit <http://www.christianacare.org/highschoolwellnesscenters>.

About Christiana Care Health System

Christiana Care Health System is one of the country's largest health care systems, ranking as the 22nd leading hospital in the nation and 12th on the East Coast in terms of admissions. The health system includes The Christiana Care Medical Group, a network of primary care physicians, medical and surgical specialists as well as home health care, preventive medicine, rehabilitation services and patient/family advisors for core health care services. A not-for-profit teaching hospital affiliated with Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University, Christiana Care is recognized as a regional center for excellence in cardiology, cancer and women's health services. Christiana Care has an extensive range of outpatient services, and through Christiana Care Quality Partners, Christiana Care works closely with its medical staff to achieve better health, better access to care and lower cost. Christiana Care is home to Delaware's only Level I trauma center, the highest capability center and the only one of its kind between Philadelphia and Baltimore. Christiana Care also features a Level III neonatal intensive care unit, the only delivering hospital in Delaware that offers the highest level of non-surgical care to the most critically ill newborns. Christiana Care includes two hospitals with 1,100 patient beds.

For more information about Christiana Care, visit www.christianacare.org/howeare.

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