

**Immediate Release**

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**Contact:**

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[jbaldinobonett@christianacare.org](mailto:jbaldinobonett@christianacare.org)**Cheers for Cancer Care at Christiana Care Health System****Appoquinimink High School Cheerleading Squad Show Spirit and Raise Funds to Support the Helen F. Graham Cancer Center & Research Institute**

(WILMINGTON, Del., Nov. 17, 2015) — The Appoquinimink High School fall cheerleading squad made a generous \$1,000 donation to support research at the Helen F. Graham Cancer Center & Research Institute at Christiana Care Health System.

The 42-member squad sold nearly 300 pink T-shirts to bring attention to breast cancer at the Middletown school. “We chose the Graham Cancer Center because we want to build awareness in our community and raise funds that can support important research into treatment and cures for cancer,” said Brooke Martin, head varsity cheerleading coach at Appoquinimink. “Our cheerleaders worked extra hard selling shirts when we decided to donate to breast cancer research.”

“On behalf of the patients, families and staff of the Graham Cancer Center, thank you to the Appoquinimink Jaguar cheerleaders for being on our team,” said Nicholas J. Petrelli, M.D., FACS, Bank of America endowed medical director of the Graham Cancer Center. “It is wonderful to see our young people lending their time and energy to support important causes. This gift contributes to our research program and highlights that we are all partners in preventing and treating cancer in our community.”

The Christiana Care Breast Center, part of the Graham Cancer Center, is the only one in the region devoted exclusively to breast care where patients receive diagnosis and treatment with a wide array of supportive resources. The designation as a Breast Imaging Center of Excellence by the American College of Radiology certifies technology and expertise to ensure the highest level of image quality and patient safety.

**About the Helen F. Graham Cancer Center & Research Institute**

One of the most technologically advanced and largest cancer programs on the East Coast, the Helen F. Graham Cancer Center & Research Institute’s team of specialists provided care for more than 219,000 patient visits last year. Besides being a top enroller in U.S. clinical trials, the Graham Cancer Center is recognized as a national model for multidisciplinary cancer care. Its patient-navigation system is emulated by cancer centers across the nation, and many of its cancer care professionals lead today’s development of cancer care strategies and new clinical investigations. The Graham Cancer Center’s Center for Translational Cancer Research, Gene

Editing Institute, Tissue Procurement Center and collaborations with expert scientists at facilities such as the University of Delaware and The Wistar Institute in Philadelphia are opening new avenues to more quickly translate cancer science into cancer medicine.

### **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 Medical Group of Christiana Care, 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 this highest level of 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/whoweare](http://www.christianacare.org/whoweare).

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