



Children's Hospital Boston

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Children's Hospital Boston Recognizes Wal-Mart and SAM'S CLUB'S \$1 Million Support at New Clinical Building

*Dedication of Ninth Floor of New Facility Honors Fundraising Efforts of
Wal-Mart and SAM'S CLUB Associates*

BOSTON (March 8, 2005) – Children's Hospital Boston President and CEO James Mandell, MD, today dedicated the ninth floor of the hospital's new clinical building to Wal-Mart, SAM'S CLUB and their customers. Governor Mitt Romney, with Children's Miracle Network co-founders Marie Osmond and Mick Shannon, joined Wal-Mart Regional Vice President John Sims and 150 Wal-Mart associates to recognize employees at 72 stores that raised more than \$1 million for the hospital through Children's Miracle Network in 2004.

“Dedicated philanthropic partners like the Children's Miracle Network and Wal-Mart enable us to maintain the highest quality of care for children,” said Mandell. “Wal-Mart and SAM'S CLUB associates and their customers have shown a strong commitment to the children of New England, and we're happy to honor their extraordinary accomplishment.”

Children's Hospital began its fundraising partnership with Wal-Mart two years ago through the Children's Miracle Network – a non-profit organization that raises funds for 170 children's hospitals across North America through special events, fundraisers and corporate-sponsored grassroots initiatives. Of the 138 Children's Miracle Network regions, Boston ranked first in dollars raised through Wal-Mart this year.

Associates at the 72 Wal-Mart and SAM'S CLUB stores throughout Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island collectively raised \$1,050,000 through in-store promotions, employee contests, customer contributions and grassroots efforts, including bake sales, lemonade stands and seasonal carnivals. The largest individual donation received through the entire 2004 fundraising program was \$300.

“By being so generous with their time and money these Wal-Mart and SAM'S CLUB associates have shown how committed they are to shining a ray of hope into the lives of the young people here at Children's Hospital,” said Governor Mitt Romney. “The compassion and humanity they have shown is truly inspiring.”

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Norwell resident Pam Kelley congratulated the associates and shared her motivation for fundraising for Children's Hospital Boston. Kelley's eight-year-old daughter Sabrina, who was diagnosed with cystic fibrosis at seven-weeks of age, has been a Children's Hospital patient almost her entire life. "Sabrina's experience made us realize how incredibly fortunate we are to have a place like Children's close by," explained Kelley. "We can never thank the hospital enough for what they've done for Sabrina, and for us. By promoting the hospital and raising money for it, we're ensuring that families will continue to have access to the same extraordinary care that our daughter receives."

Money raised through the Children's Miracle Network and its corporate sponsors supports patient care, research, medical training and community initiatives at Children's Hospital. Following the dedication ceremony, Wal-Mart and SAM'S CLUB associates toured the hospital and learned about Children's innovative clinical and research efforts.

"Wal-Mart's commitment is to improve the quality of life in our communities, and we are proud of our associates in New England who have worked very hard to raise funds that will directly help the children at Children's Hospital Boston," said Betsy Reithemeyer, Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. vice president of corporate affairs and foundation. "Through their tremendous dedication, our associates have helped make miracles possible for millions of children across the nation."

Shannon applauded Wal-Mart and SAM'S CLUB associates for their "unprecedented efforts" and thanked them for helping to raise more than \$300 million dollars across North America during the past 18 years. "Wal-Mart and SAM'S CLUB associate-based fund raising is something no other organization can come close to matching," Shannon told the associates gathered. "Your effort to help Children's Hospital Boston speaks volumes about your commitment to making a difference in your community."

About Children's Hospital Boston

Children's Hospital Boston is the nation's leading pediatric medical center, the largest provider of health care to Massachusetts' uninsured children, and the primary pediatric teaching hospital of Harvard Medical School. Children's provides pediatric and adolescent health services for patients from birth through age 21. In addition to 325 inpatient beds and comprehensive outpatient programs, it houses the world's largest research enterprise based at a pediatric medical center. More than 500 scientists, including eight members of the National Academy of Sciences, nine members of the Institute of Medicine and 10 members of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute comprise Children's research community. For more information about the hospital visit www.childrenshospital.org.

About Children's Miracle Network

Children's Miracle Network—the alliance of premier hospitals for children—is a non-profit organization dedicated to saving and improving the lives of children by raising funds for children's hospitals across North America. Each year the 170 Children's Miracle Network hospitals provide the finest medical care, life-saving research and preventative education to help millions of kids overcome diseases and injuries of every kind. To learn more go to www.cmn.org.