



BIG BEGINNINGS FOR SMALL LIVES WITH OPENING OF NEW NEONATAL UNIT AT CHRISTUS SANTA ROSA CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

SAN ANTONIO – Today, CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Children's Hospital (CSRCH) opened the doors to its newly renovated 45-bed Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) with a special dedication and blessing attended by hospital and community leaders.

"Realizing the increase in our pediatric population and with the advancements in medical technology that are able to save these fragile lives, it was critical that we expand our services to support these patients and their families," commented Dr. Richard Wayne, Administrator of CSRCH. "Today's opening is a demonstration of our deep commitment to understanding the health care needs of our community and doing all we can to meet those needs."

Providing the utmost in high-quality care for the youngest of patients, the new NICU resides on the fourth floor of CSRCH and is adjacent to the hospital's existing obstetrical unit. The NICU includes self-contained, high-tech "pods" to accommodate each tiny patient and to provide a comfortable bedside environment for parents. This level of care increasingly has become the standard as medical research highlights the benefits of parent-baby bonding during the newborn's critical first days.

Additionally, the NICU features specially designed isolation suites to accommodate newborns whose situation is further complicated by communicable disease or other issues. Along with these new accommodations for patients and their families, the NICU offers the absolute latest in medical technology. Such equipment includes ECMO, a heart-lung bypass apparatus that provides many babies with the extra time needed for their tiny lungs to mature and function properly. This type of technology is uniquely available in this region only at CSRCH. This new neonatal unit exemplifies the mission of CSRCH: to provide a comprehensive continuum of preeminent health care services that combines superior clinical care, education, research and advocacy on every child's behalf.

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Founded in 1869 by the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word, CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Health Care is a Catholic-based, non-profit health and wellness ministry dedicated to providing the highest quality medical care and services available. One of the top health care organizations in South Texas, CHRISTUS Santa Rosa has two hospitals, CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Hospital located in downtown San Antonio and in the South Texas Medical Center, and CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Children's Hospital, an academic teaching facility affiliated with the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. Specialty centers and programs offered by CHRISTUS Santa Rosa include: the CHRISTUS Transplant Institute, orthopedic and joint replacement programs, CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Ambulatory Surgery Center; the David Christopher Goldsbury Center for Children and Families with 34 primary and specialty pediatric and adult clinics; a Mother and Baby Center; CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Cancer Center, a partnership with Cancer Treatment & Research Center; comprehensive cardiology services and cardiac care; comprehensive rehabilitation services; pediatric services, emergency medicine; diabetes care, inpatient and outpatient surgical services, renal services, a new Wound Care & Hyperbaric Center, a HemoDialysis Access Center, and neighborhood-based wellness/education programs that provide comprehensive high quality, cost-effective care to those in need.