



Saint Francis Hospital
Trinity Health

Saint Francis Hospital Receives \$150,000 in Grants from the Connecticut Health and Education Facilities Authority

The funds will support Simulation Based Medical Education at both Saint Francis Hospital in Hartford and Saint Mary's Hospital in Waterbury

HARTFORD, Conn. (April 18, 2019) - The Connecticut Health and Education Facilities Authority (CHEFA) has awarded two \$75,000 grants, one for Simulation Based Medical Education provided by Saint Francis Hospital and one for Simulation Based Medical Education at Saint Mary's Hospital. The grants will be used to purchase cutting edge technology and equipment that will be used to train practitioners and first responders in a wide variety of critical medical procedures. "We are pleased to support these two very worthwhile grants to St. Francis and St Mary's Hospitals, which will provide simulated training to staff and first responders. These grants will have a great impact on patient care in the hospital, and emergency care immediately prior to, hospitalization" said Jeanette W. Weldon, CHEFA's Executive Director.

"As a major teaching hospital here in Connecticut, we are thrilled to be adding to our efforts to provide enhanced education to first responders in the greater Hartford community," said Dr. John Rodis, president of Saint Francis Hospital. "These funds are valuable in adding to our existing training programs where we offer the latest in medical simulation technology in an environment that is as close to live situations as possible."

The funds for Saint Francis will be used to conduct Simulation Based Medical Education sessions that will be offered to first responders (EMTs, police, and firefighters) in communities that are in Saint Francis Hospital's service area. Saint Francis Simulation Studio staff will use its mobile simulation lab and the Saint Francis Simulation Studio's re-purposed ambulance to conduct evening and weekend sessions for first responders in Greater Hartford communities. The grant for Saint Mary's will be used to enhance the Simulation Based Medical Education for Hospital staff.

"We are grateful for the support of CHEFA for these two programs that will truly have an impact on our communities in Hartford and Waterbury, ultimately benefitting our patients and their families. These partnerships are vital to our success," commented Lynn B. Rossini, Vice President and Chief Development Officer, Saint Francis Foundation.

Simulation Based Medical Education has become the gold standard for training medical providers and first responders on a myriad of medical procedures. Saint Francis Hospital has created a Simulation Studio that offers the latest in medical simulation technology in an environment that is as close to live situations as possible. The new medical equipment allows providers to develop proficiency without the risk of harming live patients in the process. Past grants from CHEFA have provided invaluable support in helping Saint Francis enhance the scope of the simulation scenarios that can be created. This is the first CHEFA grant that Saint Mary's Hospital has received.

Innovation and Learning Manager, Bob Craig stated, "The Simulation Program serves Physicians, Nurses, PAs, technicians, and other hospital staff throughout the region. Our focus is communication, teamwork, workflow and patient safety in acute care and procedural based learning. We are excited to be adding innovative first responder training to our curriculum and are thankful to CHEFA for their generosity to make this possible in our community."

About Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center

Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center has been an anchor institution in north central Connecticut since 1897. In 2015, Saint Francis became part of Trinity Health Of New England, a member of Trinity Health, one of the largest multi-institutional Catholic health care delivery systems in the nation. Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center is licensed for 617 beds, is a major teaching hospital and the largest Catholic hospital in New England. Other Saint Francis entities include the Comprehensive Women's Health Center, the Connecticut Joint Replacement Institute, the Curtis D. Robinson Center for Health Equity, the Hoffman Heart and Vascular Institute of Connecticut, the Smilow Cancer Hospital Yale-New Haven at Saint Francis, and Trinity Health Of New England Medical Group. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter @SaintFrancisCT.

About Saint Mary's Hospital

Saint Mary's Hospital is a Catholic, not-for-profit, acute care, community teaching hospital that has served Greater Waterbury since 1909. In 2016, Saint Mary's Hospital became part of Trinity Health Of New England, an integrated health care delivery system that is a member of Trinity Health, Livonia, Michigan, one of the largest multi-institutional Catholic health care delivery systems in the nation serving communities in 22 states. Licensed for 347 beds, Saint Mary's is designated as a Level II Trauma Center, offers award-winning cardiac and stroke care and houses the region's only pediatric emergency care unit. As the leading provider of surgical services in Greater Waterbury, Saint Mary's was the first to introduce the daVinci® Robotic Surgery System. The hospital's satellites and affiliates extend from Waterbury to Wolcott, Cheshire, Naugatuck, Southbury, Prospect and Watertown. Visit stmh.org for more information and follow us on Facebook at SaintMarysHospitalCT, Instagram and Twitter at @SaintMarysCT.

About CHEFA

The Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority (CHEFA) is a quasi-public agency that provides access to tax-exempt financing and other financial assistance, including grant programs, to educational institutions, healthcare providers, childcare providers, cultural institutions, and other eligible non-profit entities. CHEFA derives its revenues from the annual loan servicing fee it charges its clients, and operates without any State or taxpayer funds. CHEFA also expands higher educational opportunities for Connecticut students through its subsidiary, the Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority (CHESLA).

For more information on CHEFA or CHESLA, visit www.chefa.com, or www.chesla.org.