



For Immediate Release

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Cook Children's unveils results of extensive health survey

Seven "top-line" children's health issues identified in six-county region

Fort Worth, TX, Jan. 15, 2010 – Cook Children's is leading a monumental endeavor to fully understand the current state of children's health and to better focus on improving the health and well-being of children in our six-county service region. The effort, known as the Community-wide Children's Health Assessment and Planning Survey (CCHAPS), is the first known project of its kind in the state. The information gained from CCHAPS will be a significant community resource, which helps frame public policy, supports expansion of children's health services and fund-raising efforts on behalf of children.

"Cook Children's is committed to the health and well-being of our children, which can only be achieved through actions based on solid information," said Larry Tubb, senior vice president of System Planning. "With limited information available now – or as an alternative, with gaps in the information about children's health, CCHAPS fills that void and helps us honor that commitment."

In September 2008, thousands of surveys were mailed to households of adults with children ages 0-14. Through this survey, Cook Children's has identified a group of "top-line" children's health issues in its six-county service region which will be the focus of Cook Children's initial efforts to act on the data:

- Abuse
- Accident
- Access to health care
- Asthma
- Dental
- Mental
- Obesity

Cook Children's also announced today it will focus its efforts over the next 10 years to realize our promise... "to improve the health of every child in our region through the prevention and treatment of illness, disease and injury." We hope to partner with the community and the various organizations that embrace improving children's health. We will encourage those in our six-county region to engage with us as we work toward the children's health objectives set forth in Health People 2020, a national health initiative that promotes overall health and the prevention of disease. We hope to find many allies and partners in our quest to be one of the healthiest areas to raise a child in the coming decade.

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About Cook Children's

Cook Children's Health Care System is a not-for-profit, nationally recognized pediatric health care organization comprised of seven entities – a Medical Center, Physician Network, Home Health company, Northeast Hospital, Pediatric Surgery Center, Health Plan and Health Foundation. Based in Fort Worth, Texas, the integrated system has more than 60 primary and specialty care offices throughout North Texas. Its service region includes Denton, Hood, Johnson, Parker, Tarrant and Wise counties, with an additional referral area encompassing nearly half the state.

Cook Children's traces its roots back to 1918, but throughout its continual change and robust growth, it still embraces an inspiring promise – to improve the health of every child in its region through the prevention and treatment of illness, disease and injury. To live up to this promise, Cook Children's combines the art of caring with the use of leading technology and extraordinary collaboration to provide exceptional care for every child, every day. For more information, please visit www.cookchildrens.org.

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