



Preferred Partners with Homeless Health Initiative

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EATONTOWN, N.J., March 27, 2012 — Regarded as one of the region's best home health care agencies, Preferred Home Health Care & Nursing Services (PHHC) recently announced the expansion of its relationship with The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), as PHHC employees have started volunteering with the hospital's Homeless Health Initiative.

PHHC has loyally supported the Homeless Health Initiative for many years. Bolstering this support, volunteers from PHHC will now donate time and talents--offering homework help to schoolchildren residing in emergency housing, hosting donation drives to benefit families in shelters, and repairing, cleaning and painting shelter living spaces.

"This is an important opportunity for all of Preferred's employees to get involved directly with families in need," remarked PHHC President Joel Markel. "The Homeless Health Initiative works closely with several women's and children's shelters in Philadelphia, an area where we are expanding our volunteering activities."

For Markel, PHHC's partnership with Children's Hospital is personal. In the late 1980s, as Markel's son was battling serious health problems, Children's Hospital provided Markel and his family great comfort. It was during this time that Markel faced difficulties finding qualified and committed caregivers who could tend to his son's needs at home, leading him to the home health care field. Markel purchased an existing agency in 1993, and today, PHHC operates nine locations across New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

"It's so exciting and rewarding to work with CHOP as they expand their volunteering initiatives," Markel commented. "We look forward to helping many families in the Philadelphia area over the coming years."

The Homeless Health Initiative, started in 1989, is a volunteer outreach program coordinated by Karen Hudson, Melissa Bennett, and Melissa Berrios. Under their leadership, Children's Hospital volunteers provide free, high-quality medical, nursing and dental care as well as health education workshops in area shelters. The Homeless Health Initiative also helps families access important long-term health care services including health insurance, primary care and specialty care.

"We are so pleased to see PHHC's valuable commitment to the Homeless Health Initiative continue to grow," said Melissa Bennett, M.D. HHI's Medical Advisor. "The Children's Hospital volunteer team and the families we serve are so thankful for their continued support, service and partnership."

Since 1987, Preferred Home Health Care & Nursing Services (PHHC) has been proudly serving families throughout New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Regarded as one of the best home health care agencies in the region, Preferred continues to foster long-standing relationships with all local hospitals and nursing homes in the region, focusing on the intimate understanding of home care complexities. Preferred Home Health Care & Nursing Services is accredited by CHAP, the leading accrediting organization for the home health care industry, which has publicly certified Preferred Home Health Care as voluntarily achieving the highest standards of excellence for home-based health care. For more information, visit www.preferredcares.com.

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