



For Immediate Release

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**ADVOCATE ILLINOIS MASONIC MEDICAL CENTER OFFICIALLY OPENS
TOYS "R" US CHILDREN'S FUND-STARLIGHT SITE
PROVIDING STATE-OF-THE-ART PLAYROOM FOR CHICAGO'S LITTLEST PATIENTS**

CHICAGO – May 7, 2007 – On May 14, Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center will unveil a new Toys "R" Us Children's Fund-Starlight Site, a state-of-the-art playroom created in partnership with the Starlight Starbright Children's Foundation, and an adjacent parent room. The unveiling is part of a \$7 million, multi-year donation made by the Toys "R" Us Children's Fund to Starlight Starbright for the construction and renovation of kids' playrooms in hospitals across the country.

"Toys "R" Us and the Toys "R" Us Children's Fund are committed to improving the quality of life for children," said Kathleen Waugh, Chairman of the Toys "R" Us Children's Fund, Inc. "Through these playrooms, we hope to bring much-needed joy and play time to pediatric patients at Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center."

With shooting stars across the ceiling, interactive wall-mounted games, and play areas for infants, toddlers and older children, the specially designed Starlight Site will serve as a relaxing and carefree space for the hospital's pediatric patients. Playroom amenities include a big screen TV with DVD/VCR player, stereo CD player, Nintendo GameCube system, computer system with flat screen monitor, a Somatron Cloud Chair with vibration music for therapeutic use, wall-mounted interactive games, and new toys purchased with a \$1,000 gift card from Toys "R" Us. The adjacent parent room features a single sleeper loveseat, coffee table, guest chairs, and a flat screen TV.

The site will be dedicated at 2:00 pm, in the Department of Pediatrics, with pediatric patients and their families in attendance. Additional attendees at the dedication will include Toys "R" Us mascot Geoffrey and local Toys "R" Us and Babies "R" Us representatives; representatives from the Starlight Starbright Children's Foundation; hospital leadership including Susan Nordstrom Lopez, Hospital President, Donna King, RN, Vice President of Clinical Operations, and Dr. Michael Cupoli, Chairman, Department of Pediatrics; hospital associates; donors; and friends of the hospital.

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“We are very grateful to the Starlight Starbright foundation for the generous gift that will surely make a positive impact on the pediatric patients in our hospital,” said Susan Nordstrom Lopez, president of Illinois Masonic. “The newly dedicated playroom will provide entertainment and fun to our youngest patients, and make the hospital experience less stressful for them and their families.”

In Support of a Growing Trend

The Toys “R” Us Children’s Fund-Starlight Starbright partnership is an example of a movement in hospital care as hospitals are addressing patients’ needs by teaming up with the private sector. In addition, the playroom program addresses the burgeoning, nationwide hospital trend of looking at a patient’s environment as an important factor in the healing process.

“For children confined to a hospital, the opportunity to have fun in a well-equipped, inviting atmosphere assists in the healing process,” said Jane Van Stedum, vice president of program services for Starlight Starbright. “While play experiences are valuable in their own right, they also provide children an opportunity to express their feelings, release stress and learn new skills. Our partnership with Toys “R” Us allows us to enhance the quality of our site program and bring countless hours of therapeutic fun to the children who need it most.”

About Starlight Starbright Children’s Foundation

Starlight Starbright Children's Foundation is a non-profit organization that transforms the lives of seriously ill children and their families through imaginative programs that educate, uplift their spirits, foster a sense of community, and help alleviate the pain and fear of prolonged illness. Starlight Starbright offers an impressive array of in-hospital, outpatient, school and home-based programs and services that touch the lives of more than 180,000 children and families each month. To learn more visit www.starlight.org.

About Toys “R” Us Children’s Fund

Since it was founded in 1992, the Toys “R” Us Children’s Fund, Inc. has donated millions of dollars each year to organizations and charities that help children and infants in need. Because children are the heart and soul of our business, the “R” Us family has a strong sense of responsibility to do whatever we can to make the lives of children happier and healthier. Funds raised through the Toys “R” Us Children’s Fund are used to support numerous worthwhile organizations, including the Starlight Starbright Children’s Foundation, Autism Speaks, the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation, Children Affected by AIDS Foundation, National Lekotek Center, and Kids In Distressed Situations (K.I.D.S.), among many others.

About Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center

Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center is a 551-bed hospital with a Level I trauma center and Level III perinatal and obstetric center, the highest designations awarded by the State of Illinois. Illinois Masonic features a comprehensive inpatient hospital, including medical, surgical, obstetrics and pediatric inpatient care services; a cardiology program that includes open-heart surgery; outpatient services; and a physician office building. It is part of Advocate Health Care, a nationally recognized healthcare delivery system and the largest provider of health care services in Chicagoland.