



SMOKE-FREE JOLIET COALITION

Supporting Organizations

ABC Wellness & Rehab, P.C.
The Advanced Cosmetic Laser & Surgery Center and Dermatology, LTD
Advanced Hearing Systems
Advanced Urology Associates
Allergy and Asthma Clinic, SL
American Cancer Society
American Diabetes Association
American Heart Association
American Lung Association
Andrew Roechner Jr. D.D.S.
Antonia's Grill
Aschinberg Pediatrics
Associate Pathologists of Joliet
ATI Physical Therapy
Cardinal Sleep Disorder Centers of America
Child Care Resource & Referral
Christian Faith Center Church of Joliet
Christian Youth Center Ministries
CTR for Surgery
De Soto LLC
Easter Seals Joliet Region, Inc.
Education Service Network
Family Health Chiropractic
First Assembly of God
For the Good of It
Fredrickson Pharmacy
Future Diagnostics Group
G. Frederick Edmiston, DDS, MS
G & L Alcalá Pediatric Practice
Gary M. Trager, M.D.
Harmony Holiness Church
Heartland Cardiovascular Center
Illinois Academy of Family Physicians
Illinois Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics
Illinois Public Health Association
JD Brown Pharmacy
Joliet Christian Fellowship
Joliet Doctors Clinic
Joliet Oncology and Hematology Associates, Ltd.
Joliet Second Voice Club
Joseph M. Marconi D.D.S., LTD
Kendall County Health Department
Kodo Pharmacy
Leeza's Place at Provena Saint Joseph Medical Center
March of Dimes, Illinois Chapter
Midwest Respiratory, LTD
New Canaanland Christian Church
Newsome Physical Therapy
Obee's Soup Salad Subs
Provena Care @ Home
Provena Saint Joseph Medical Center
Reproductive Health Specialist, LTD
Silver Cross Hospital
Steven E. Marek D.D.S., Ltd.
Sunny Hill Nursing Home of Will County
Sunny Hill TB Clinic
Thomas J. Streit, DDS PC
University of St. Francis
Will County Board of Health
Will County Community Health Center
Will County Health Department
Will County Medical Associates, S.C.
Will County Regional Office of Education
Will Grundy Medical Clinic
Will Kankakee Asthma Network

October 16, 2006

Contact:

Will County Health Department
Cindy Jackson
(815) 727-8824

Provena Saint Joseph Medical Center
Allison Bailey
(815) 725-7133, ext. 3735

Silver Cross Hospital
Tracy Simons
(815) 740-7119

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Joliet Hospitals extinguish tobacco use on campuses

Joliet, IL (October 16, 2006)—In coordination with the Will County Health Department's Smoke Free Joliet Coalition, two southwest hospitals—Provena Saint Joseph Medical Center and Silver Cross Hospital— have joined together to become tobacco-free campuses starting on January 16, 2007.

With the implementation of this policy, the use of all tobacco products will not be allowed – inside or outside - on either campus or at any building owned, leased or operated by the two Joliet hospitals, to ensure a healthier environment for patients, visitors, physicians, staff and volunteers.

“As a leader in the community, it is important for the residents to understand that we are committed to providing the healthiest environment possible for patients, visitors, physicians, volunteers and employees,” said Paul Pawlak, President/CEO of Silver Cross Hospital. “And as a health care provider, it is important that we educate and model healthy behaviors for our communities,” said Jeffrey Brickman, President/CEO of Provena Saint Joseph Medical Center.

The organizations realize the hazards arising from exposure to environmental tobacco smoke and are committed to the health and safety of their patients, visitors and employees.

“The hospitals’ decision to become a tobacco-free environment is part of their goal to provide a healthy workplace and facilities of care for all,” said Cindy Jackson, Program Manager for the Will County Health Department.

While the focus of the initiative is to provide a healthier environment for those at the hospitals, it is also to assist those who are interested in leading a healthier lifestyle. The hospitals are not asking tobacco users to stop using tobacco; they are simply requesting that tobacco products are not used on their property to maintain a healthy atmosphere for those in and around the hospital.

Research shows that stopping smoking can lengthen your life. A 50-year study of more than 34,000 male doctors found that quitting by age 40 can add about nine years to a man's life. Quitting by age 50 add about six years to his life expectancy. Further, secondhand smoke is the third leading cause of preventable death in this country, killing approximately 65,000 nonsmokers in the U.S. each year. Secondhand smoke contains over 4,000 chemicals, including 69 that cause cancer. Secondhand smoke is proven to aggravate asthma and increase the risk of cardiovascular diseases in children and adults.

Doesn't everyone deserve smoke-free air?

Smoke-Free Joliet Coalition
501 Ella Avenue
Joliet, IL 60433
(815) 727-8824

<http://www.smokefreejoliet.org>

Medical experts recommend tobacco users try one of these methods:

- Set a quit date, and ask your family and friends for their support.
- Once you quit, use nicotine replacement therapy or prescription medicine to boost your chances of success. Withdrawal is usually at its worst within one to three weeks after quitting.
- Avoid people and places that make you crave cigarettes.
- Talk to your doctor for more suggestions to help you stick with your healthier lifestyle.

For more information on how to quit smoking or about tobacco-free healthcare organizations, call the Will County Health Department's Smoke Free Joliet Coalition at (815) 727-8824, Provena St. Joseph Medical Center at (815) 725-7133, ext. 3735, or Silver Cross Hospital at 1-888-660-HEAL (4325).

*The mission of the **Will County Health Department's Smoke Free Joliet Coalition** is to protect the health of residents, employees, and visitors by reducing exposure to secondhand smoke in the City of Joliet. The Coalition is focused on passing a comprehensive ordinance that will eliminate smoking in all workplaces, including restaurants, bars, and casinos, in the City of Joliet. The Coalition has developed a website www.smokefreejoliet.org to gather support and to educate the community on smoke-free initiatives. Please visit the website to see a complete list of supporting organizations, for meeting information, and to sign the petition of support. If you would like to become a member of the Smoke-Free Joliet Coalition please call Cindy Jackson at (815) 727-8824.*

***Provena Saint Joseph Medical Center** provides many advanced health care services typically found in a university hospital setting. Through a partnership with the University of Illinois at Chicago, Provena Saint Joseph Medical Center provides neurosurgical services. The Saint Joseph Heart Center is an entire floor solely dedicated to the treatment of the heart and centered on the area's only open-heart surgery program, offering patients an advanced level of cardiac care that's unprecedented anywhere in the region. Provena Saint Joseph Medical Center is presently undergoing a major renovation and construction project that will result in a new eight-story patient tower and all private patient rooms, as well as many special amenities that will create an environment expressly designed to promote family-centered care and enhance clinical outcomes. In addition, Provena Saint Joseph Medical Center serves the community's wide-range of health care needs through its Sister Theresa Cancer Care Center, Level II Emergency/Trauma Center, Family Birthing Suites, Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, Rehabilitation Services, Mental Health Services, Sleep Disorder Center and Retina Center. Provena Saint Joseph Medical Center has been part of the Joliet community for more than 120 years and continues to carry out the mission of its dedicated founding Sisters and set the highest standards of medical care for the community.*

***Silver Cross Hospital**, a not-for-profit health care provider, has been creating world-class health care experiences for the southwest suburban communities for 110 years. Silver Cross has been recognized as one of our nation's 100 Top Hospitals by Solucient and as one of America's Most Friendliest Hospitals by the American Alliance of Healthcare Providers. Exceptional care. It's not unusual. It's simply the way you should be treated.*

END



PROVENA
Saint Joseph Medical Center

WE ARE BUILDING **EXCELLENCE**

333 North Madison Street • Joliet, Illinois 60435
(815) 725-7133 • www.provenasaintjoe.com



THE WAY YOU SHOULD BE TREATEDSM

A Solucient 100 Top Hospital[®]

Doesn't everyone deserve smoke-free air?

Smoke-Free Joliet Coalition
501 Ella Avenue
Joliet, IL 60433
(815) 727-8824

<http://www.smokefreejoliet.org>