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### **Multiple Sclerosis Center Opens**

*Comprehensive Care for Multiple Sclerosis Patients is Now Closer to Home*

WATERBURY, Conn. (May 9, 2018) Trinity Health Of New England is pleased to announce the opening of the Joyce D. and Andrew J. Mandell Center for Comprehensive Multiple Sclerosis Care and Neuroscience Research at Saint Mary's Hospital. The nearly one thousand MS patients in the Greater Waterbury area are now able to access all of their healthcare needs in one convenient, central location with a team of specialists dedicated to every aspect of their care.

The Mandell MS Center at Saint Mary's offers a combination of cutting-edge treatments, groundbreaking research and innovative rehabilitation programs, and provides an all-inclusive treatment plan for each patient's individual needs. In addition to state-of-the-art equipment, the center features a nationally recognized team of MS specialists including neurologists, neuropsychologists, urologists, physiatrists, social workers, occupational and rehabilitation therapists, speech pathologists, physician's assistants and nurses.

The MS Center at Saint Mary's is partnered with the world-renowned Joyce D. and Andrew J. Mandell MS Center located at Mount Sinai Rehabilitation Hospital in Hartford. President of Mount Sinai, Dr. Robert Krug says that the Hartford location "has been a game changer for MS patients in Connecticut, and the Waterbury location will be a game changer for patients in that area."

Dr. Krug says, "It's the same people, the same vision. The Mount Sinai team and the Saint Mary's team are all part of Trinity Health Of New England. We will be collaborating in care, with the same group of providers and conducting research at both sites."

The \$3 million dollar project was made possible because of the generous support of the Mandell Family, and Saint Mary's Hospital Foundation, with the tireless work of Capital Campaign chairs, Frank Monteiro and David Martin.

Foundation executive director, Carrie Fuller says, "Frank and Dave have been such strong advocates for the Mandell MS Center and for the MS community. We knew that the project would benefit from their

efforts.” Monteiro was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis in 2007, and is also on the board of directors of the Connecticut Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Multiple Sclerosis is a disease that causes a disruption in the myelin that insulates and protects nerve cells. MS is a long-lasting disease that can affect a person’s brain, spinal cord and optic nerves causing problems with vision, balance, muscle control and other basic body functions. Thus, having a variety of specialists in one location is invaluable for MS patients.

Steven Schneider, M.D., M.B.A, President of Saint Mary’s Hospital says that the Mandell MS Center is a wonderful addition to the services provided at Saint Mary’s because, “it perfectly exemplifies the mission here by providing patient-driven, compassionate care in a state-of-the-art facility.” Dr. Schneider says that, “Saint Mary’s Hospital is very mindful of the needs in our community, and is committed to always looking for ways to provide our patients with the latest and best in healthcare.”

The Mandell MS Center is currently open and seeing patients, an official Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting celebration with Joyce and Andrew Mandell, as well as Trinity Health Of New England leadership, and area dignitaries is scheduled for June 7.

#### 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](http://stmh.org) for more information and follow us on Facebook at SaintMarysHospitalCT, Instagram and Twitter at @SaintMarysCT.