

**Saint Joseph Mercy Health System**  
*Media Backgrounder*

**Remarkable Medicine. Remarkable Care.**

Throughout the past century, Saint Joseph Mercy Health System, a member of Trinity Health, has been at the forefront of combining clinical excellence with compassionate care to improve the health of communities across Michigan.

Through its network of three hospitals in Ann Arbor, Livingston and Saline, as well as 18 outpatient facilities throughout southeast Michigan, Saint Joseph Mercy Health System offers patients access to some of the area's top medical programs and health care resources. Major clinical services include oncology, cardiovascular, orthopedics, neurosciences, emergency medicine, women and children's health, senior health, and a full range of surgical services.

The Michigan Heart & Vascular Institute (MHVI), a cornerstone of the Saint Joseph Mercy Health System, is one of the largest and most comprehensive cardiovascular programs in the country. More than 5,100 inpatients are treated annually for cardiac conditions, including more than 1,000 open heart surgery patients—more than any other hospital in the area. By combining leading-edge technology with a continuous focus on quality and exceptional patient care, St. Joseph Mercy Hospital and MHVI routinely exceed national averages in key measurements for quality outcomes and has earned a reputation as one of the premier cardiovascular disease centers in the United States.

Be it cardiology, cancer research, orthopedics or obstetrics, Saint Joseph Mercy Health System continuously embraces the latest technologies and drives new advancements in medical care to bring better health care options to Michigan communities. Leading national and regional magazines have named its facilities as top hospitals for childbirth, heart attack treatment, back pain, and knee replacement. And SJMHS physicians rank among the area's best in specialties such as cardiovascular, orthopedics, oncology, neurosciences, gastroenterology and urology.

- Thousands of Michigan patients have a new – virtually pain free – defense in the fight against cancer. Saint Joseph Mercy Health System (SJMHS) now offers CyberKnife® Robotic Radiosurgery System, which began operating in June 2007. This advanced radiosurgery system non-invasively treats cancers anywhere in the body, including previously inoperable tumors, with astounding accuracy and with little to no discomfort. As the only hospital in Michigan to offer CyberKnife, St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor draws patients from across the state who are seeking new hope in their cancer treatment.
- Saint Joseph Mercy Health System is nationally recognized for excellence in orthopedic medicine—ranked as one of the top 100 Orthopedic Programs in the country by Solucient, a leading health care quality authority.
- As one of the largest cancer care centers in Michigan, St. Joseph Mercy Hospital offers access to virtually every cancer research trial offered throughout the United States, providing patients with the same leading-edge treatment options available at larger academic cancer centers but in the comfort of a community setting close to home.
- The Michigan Heart & Vascular Institute is regarded as one of the top cardiology programs in the country, earning Solucient's ranking as one of the Top 100 Hospitals in 2005 and 2006.
- 200 board-certified surgeons perform more than 32,000 surgical procedures annually. Patients come from all over the state citing the caliber of surgeons, experienced and skilled staff, and the reassurance of leading-edge technology and resources along with remarkable care as their reasons for choosing SJMHS.

- With 4,728 births in 2006, more babies are born at Saint Joseph Mercy hospitals than any other health system in Washtenaw or Livingston counties. Through the Ellen Thompson Women's Health Center, SJMHS offers a wide range of obstetric, gynecologic and reproductive endocrinology and infertility services, as well as full array of screening and diagnostic services for breast cancer treatment and prevention.
- Saint Joseph Mercy Health System is a recognized leader in digestive medicine and surgery offering full diagnostic and therapeutic services for gastroenterology, hepatology and endoscopic care for digestive conditions.

The balance of clinical excellence and remarkable care is what makes Saint Joseph Mercy Health System one of the finest health systems in the country. Recognizing that quality care extends beyond the bedside, SJMHS has established health centers in neighborhoods throughout the area that provide a full spectrum of services close to home, including a wide range of programs, events and classes to promote good health in the community. Community programs include cancer education and research, children's health, CPR and basic life support, healthy cooking, heart and cardiovascular education, pregnancy and childbirth classes, substance abuse and other support groups.

As a member of Trinity Health, the fourth largest Catholic health system in the United States, SJMHS is committed to providing compassionate patient care and access to quality health services to the poor and underserved. In 2006, Saint Joseph Mercy Health System provided \$45.5 million in Community Benefit Ministry.

Exceptional medical care in a friendly, community environment is what Saint Joseph Mercy Health System is all about. That's why SJMHS is in the middle of a ten-year fundraising effort (2002 – 2012), to raise \$100 million for new facilities, programs and technologies that benefit area patients.

By 2011 St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor will complete a major transformation project that includes a new 11-story patient tower (scheduled to be completed winter 2007) as well as a seven-story patient tower (scheduled to be completed fall 2010). The new towers will replace the existing hospital structure.

The new patient towers will make it possible for Saint Joseph Mercy Health System to accommodate a growing number of patients and continue to provide a level of care that is above and beyond patient expectations. The project increases overall hospital space by 100,000 square feet, allowing the patient rooms to double in size and incorporate an innovative design with separate zones for the patient, staff and visitors. The updated infrastructure will better support state-of-the-art technology and work areas will be built to promote staff efficiency and ease of practice. Patient rooms, visitor waiting rooms and public areas will feature natural lighting, soothing colors and unique design elements that have a welcoming, comforting quality that encourages family involvement and helps tend to patients body, mind and spirit.

This transformation of services will further advance Saint Joseph Mercy Health System's ability to deliver break-through medical treatments and remarkable patient care to communities throughout southeast Michigan and beyond.

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