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CHI St. Joseph Children's Health and Library System of Lancaster County Partner to Offer Brush Twice-A-Day Challenge

Brush Twice-A-Day Challenge: "Back to School, Back to Brushing" improves oral health habits of youth in Lancaster County

August 16, 2017 – CHI St. Joseph Children's Health and the Library System of Lancaster County are proud to announce a partnership to offer the *Brush Twice-A-Day Challenge* to children throughout Lancaster County, which **begins September 11, 2017 and ends December 11, 2017**. The challenge is a 10-week initiative for Tots to Tweens.

The *Brush Twice-A-Day Challenge* is a free educational program designed to help kids start and stick to the healthy habit of brushing their teeth at least two times each day. Children and their caregivers can join the program at any of the 17 local library locations or the bookmobile.

"We're extremely excited to partner with CHI St. Joseph Children's Health to bring the Brushing Challenge to children throughout all of Lancaster County," said Bonnie Young, Executive Director for the Library System of Lancaster County. "We look forward to connecting families with the tools they need to build healthy habits from a young age."

Children participating in the Brush Twice-A-Day Challenge can visit their local library to pick up a free Health Hero Starter Pack to begin the fun. Included in the pack is a toothbrush, toothpaste and a set of Smile Counter scratch-off cards to track their brushing progress at home. Completed cards can be returned to specially marked mailboxes in the libraries. Those completed cards will be mailed to Hank the Health Hero, the lovable and imaginative puppet and champion of the Brush Twice-A-Day Challenge.

Hank the Health Hero will also be appearing at libraries this Fall to promote the Brush Twice-A-Day Challenge and other healthy choices for children of all ages. Check with your local library for his appearance schedule.

"The Brush Twice-A-Day Challenge inspires kids to brush their teeth. They can see the progress they are making week after week using the Smile Counter cards – and the healthy habits they practice today will lead to a lifetime of healthy smiles," said Lori McCracken, Director of Education at CHI St. Joseph Children's Health."

As a local nonprofit, the Brush Twice-A-Day Challenge is just one way CHI St. Joseph Children's Health strives to improve the overall health and well-being of children and families throughout the Lancaster community. The organization's mission includes multiple efforts, educational programs and services including two Dental Centers and a recently opened Behavioral Health Center – all which serve children regardless of their insurance or ability to pay.

"This partnership will allow us to reach more families throughout the community who may be in need of our various services and programs," said Philip Goropoulos, president of CHI St. Joseph Children's Health. "We're honored to partner with the Library System of Lancaster County."

About CHI St. Joseph Children's Health

A part of Catholic Health Initiatives, CHI St. Joseph Children's Health is a community-based organization dedicated to the health and well-being of children and families in the Lancaster Community. The organization works in collaboration with community partners to assure access to appropriate, quality health services and benefits for every child in the Lancaster community. This mission in children's health includes multiple efforts, programs and services committed to improving the health of children and families throughout the Lancaster community. To learn more about CHI St. Joseph Children's Health, visit www.CHIstjosephchildrenshealth.org.

About the Library System of Lancaster County

The Library System of Lancaster County is a federated system with 14 member libraries, three branches and a bookmobile, which serves 519,462 residents. Established in April 1987 as a 501c(3) non-profit organization, the Library System provides well-coordinated countywide services and cooperative programs to assist member libraries in meeting the diverse needs of its community residents. The mission of the Library System of Lancaster County is to bring together all 14 member public libraries to plan and create a cost-effective network of technology, facilities and resources to meet the informational, educational and recreational needs of all residents of Lancaster County. The Library System ensures that a network of support services is provided to all public libraries in the county.

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