



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

H1N1 RESTRICTIONS LIMIT HOSPITAL VISITS PLACING PREMIUM ON SERVICES OF CiC FOUNDATION

Santa Claus to visit Lion's Dens across North America on Dec. 9th!

HUNTINGTON, NY - November 2009 – Due to the swine flu scare, hospitals across North America have recently become even lonelier places, putting a greater premium on the services delivered by Lion's Den Rooms and the XBox 360 mobile kiosks provided by the Companions in Courage Foundation.

In response to the rapid and pervasive spread of the H1N1 virus this flu season, hospitals throughout North America are restricting visitors and putting precautions in place to protect their patients. In many cases, visitors under the age of 18 are prohibited from visiting patients, while adult visitors must bring proof of their own flu inoculations before gaining admission. Immediate family members are being asked to wear masks or other protective clothing during their visits and some hospitals are restricting each patient to just two visitors per day.

“It's difficult to know how long this will stay in effect; the official end of seasonal flu season is around April or May,” said Paul Simon, spokesman for South Jersey Healthcare. “But this year it's harder to predict because the H1N1 complicates things.”

The benefits of the Lion's Den Rooms and their XBox 360 compatible kiosks have never been more obvious than now as patients look for germ-free ways to connect to the outside world. Introducing technology to the healing process means connecting to the outside world via the Internet, video conferencing and XBox Live communities.

On Wednesday, December 9th one of the most fun days of the year will hit Lion's Dens from Florida to Montreal when Santa Claus visits patients via Cisco's WebEx technology. Patients in

each hospital will video conference with Santa and his elves at the North Pole and share their hopes and dreams for the Christmas season. This is a healthy and germ-free way for patients in hospitals to share the traditional experience enjoyed by their friends and family members who line shopping malls waiting for the chance to visit with Santa.

As a bonus, “elves” from Cisco Systems will provide each patient with a gift at each hospital. To learn more about how you may contribute, please visit: <http://www.active.com/donate/cicsanta>.

About the Companions in Courage Foundation

The Companions in Courage Foundation is a not-for-profit (501(c)(3) organization founded by former NHL star Pat LaFontaine as a response to the inspiration he derived while visiting children in hospitals during his 15-year Hall of Fame career. The organization builds interactive playrooms in children’s hospitals throughout North America and distributes mobile XBox kiosks to patient’s bedsides. Through innovative communications tools, the playrooms and kiosks replace the isolation of a hospital with a connection to family, friends and celebrities during their hospital stay. For more information, visit www.CiC16.org.

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