



## News Release

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### **CentraState marks first year as a teaching hospital**

**FREEHOLD TOWNSHIP** — This month CentraState Medical Center celebrated the one-year anniversary of its Family Medicine Residency Program affiliated with the UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. CentraState is one of only 12 New Jersey hospitals with a family medicine residency program.

The three-year training program is now at full enrollment, with 18 medical school graduates on-board. The physician residents are on site daily at CentraState's Family Medicine Center on West Main Street in Freehold. There they treat patients and perform clinical and administrative functions under the close supervision of 10 full-time MD and PhD instructors hired by CentraState. In total, the program will cost about \$2.5 million in 2006.

"Over the last year, the residency program has increased the community's access to quality primary care," says Kenneth Faistl, MD, medical director of the Family Medicine Residency Program. "Our residents have tremendous knowledge and a strong grasp of the latest healthcare technology."

The residents' experience is not limited to the Family Medicine Center, Dr. Faistl notes. Board-certified physicians on staff at CentraState voluntarily mentor residents and instruct them by allowing residents to shadow them at the hospital or at their own private practices.

"With our teaching program, CentraState is achieving more than one objective, including increasing access to primary care in central New Jersey," says John Gribbin, FACHE, president and CEO of CentraState Healthcare System. "Studies show that family medicine physicians play an invaluable role in the delivery of quality, safe healthcare from birth to the end of life. Our residents are learning how to provide this

care daily and studies suggest that more than half of family practice residents join or open physician practices in the communities where they train.”

CentraState Healthcare System is a non-profit community health organization consisting of an acute-care hospital, three senior living centers, a health education and activities center, a family medicine residency program, and a charitable foundation. It is a member of the Robert Wood Johnson Health Network and a clinical research affiliate of The Cancer Institute of New Jersey, a National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center.

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