

## John Patrick Flanagan Foundation Celebrates Opening of

## **Children's Corner at Bridgeport Hospital**

Bridgeport, CT – April 6, 2011 – The John Patrick Flanagan Foundation, a charitable foundation that sponsors programs to help vulnerable children and families of Connecticut, is pleased to announce the completion of the John Patrick Flanagan Children's Corner at Bridgeport Hospital. The Children's Corner is located in The Norma F. Pfriem Cancer Institute and provides a much needed reprieve for the children of loved ones battling cancer at Bridgeport Hospital.

The John Patrick Flanagan Foundation was founded in 2009 as a charitable legacy to remember John P. Flanagan, a devoted husband, father and friend who passed away at the age of 44. John always put his family first and loved being surrounded by his three children and many nieces and nephews. John was treated by the compassionate team of medical professionals at Bridgeport Hospital during his brief battle with cancer.

"The John Patrick Flanagan Children's Corner is a very special project for our Foundation and is very close to our hearts," said Amanda Flanagan, chairperson of the John Patrick Flanagan Foundation. "It was important to John that he spend time with our children while he was receiving treatment and to now be able to offer families facing similar battles with a place their children can play together and take their minds of the seriousness of the situation, even for just a few minutes, is a very fitting way for us to honor John."

"The John Patrick Flanagan Children's Corner gives the children who are spending time visiting loved ones a place to just be regular kids again," commented Stephen Jakab, president of the Bridgeport Hospital Foundation. "On behalf of the hospital, I'd like to thank the John Patrick Flanagan Foundation for sponsoring the Children's Corner and for making visits to the hospital a little bit easier for the youngest individuals affected by a sick family member."

The John Patrick Flanagan Children's Corner is a bright play area at The Norma F. Pfriem Cancer Institute, featuring child-size furniture, an aquarium, interactive artwork, books, games and toys for children of all ages. A dedication ceremony will take place on Wednesday, April 6<sup>th</sup>.

## **About The John Patrick Flanagan Foundation**

The <u>John Patrick Flanagan Foundation</u> was established in loving memory of John Patrick Flanagan who passed away from a rare and aggressive form of cancer on December 24, 2008 at the age of 44. John's family, friends and colleagues have established the Foundation to serve as a charitable legacy to support what he cherished above all else: children and family. The Mission of The John Patrick Flanagan Foundation is to help vulnerable children and families by



supporting charities that provide the direction, education and healthy environment that vulnerable children and families need to have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

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