

# go beyond

March 16, 2009

*our passion drives us to go beyond*

## **New Urgent Care Center Opens**

Columbia St. Mary's is pleased to announce the opening of its newest urgent care center at Cedar Mills Medical Clinic in Cedarburg. The clinic opened today, March 16th.

The health care services that are offered include urgent care, laboratory and medical imaging.

The urgent care center is staffed by family medicine physicians from Columbia St. Mary's who are trained in urgent care. "Open evenings and weekends, we're able to tackle after-hour injuries and illnesses," said Dr. Robert Pachner, Medical Director of Columbia St. Mary's Urgent Care at Cedar Mills Medical Clinic. "We will treat fevers, sore throats, coughs, and cuts that need stitches. Plus, with an onsite lab and x-ray, we can diagnose infections, sprains and fractures to get our patients back on their feet in no time," he said.

The urgent care center is open Monday - Friday from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. and on Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 4 p.m.

No appointment is necessary. Walk-ins welcome.

## **Columbia St. Mary's First to Aid Afghan Hospitals**

### **Mission Brings Much Needed Medical Care**



*(left to right) Jennie Johns-Ford, Manager, CSM Distribution Center; Sandy Destrampe, Nurse Case Manager-CSM Hospital Ozaukee, and Becky Tenges, Children's Hope Network, Lead Volunteer Afghanistan Projects, are pictured at the CSM Distribution Center holding items ready for shipment to Afghanistan in April.*

With a mission to care for the most vulnerable in society, Columbia St. Mary's Health System is donating outdated medical equipment and supplies it no longer uses to help save lives in the war-torn areas of Kabul and Kandahar, Afghanistan. The first cargo shipment of items included nursery and hospital beds, examination and physical therapy tables, stretchers, a mobile surgical table, x-ray and office equipment, and a variety of life-saving medical supplies. The shipment's planning, transportation and arrival in Afghanistan was a remarkable feat, since it was the first attempt ever by several groups of volunteers. The shipment left Columbia St. Mary's Distribution Center in July 2008 and arrived in Afghanistan in December.

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“Columbia St. Mary’s is the only US hospital system giving medical equipment to Afghan hospitals,” said Jennie Johns-Ford, manager of Columbia St. Mary’s Distribution Center. “When equipment is replaced or outdated for our use, it still has many uses left for Third World countries. We had accumulated a lot of equipment and supplies as changes occurred throughout our system, and more importantly, from some very dedicated employees who recognized an opportunity. These people don’t just talk about service, they walk the walk,” said Johns-Ford.

**“The generosity and kindness of the people in Wisconsin and Columbia St. Mary’s is simply Overwhelming.”**

— Pat Karzai, sister-in-law of Afghan President Hamid Karzai, and the U.S. administrator for Afghans for Civil Society.

The prime motivator behind the Afghan donations is Sandy Destrampe, a nurse case manager with Columbia St. Mary’s Hospital Ozaukee, who became involved in aiding the Afghan people by way of her experience adopting her two daughters from Russia in 1997. “I saw pervasive poverty that left an indelible and enduring impression on me,” said Destrampe. “The children in the Russian orphanage couldn’t even go outside to play because they had no shoes. I promised that I would not forget them,” she said.

Destrampe began by collecting shoes, coats and hygiene products for the orphanages. Through her adoption agency, Children’s Hope Network, Inc., she has shipped 1,600 handmade quilts to orphaned children in China, Russia and Afghanistan. She continues to send backpacks, school supplies and other items to children in need in the United States, and abroad.

As a result of her efforts in Afghanistan, Destrampe made a special friend in Patricia Karzai, the sister-in-law of current Afghan President Hamid Karzai and the U.S. administrator for Afghans for Civil Society, based in Maryland. Karzai’s organization underwrote the costs of the first shipment from Columbia St. Mary’s and helped make certain that the equipment got to its proper destination, which can be difficult. The equipment has already helped volunteer doctors and staff at Kabul University Hospital, the Afghan Women’s Center in Kabul, and Kandahar Hospital.

Karzai stressed the vital nature of the donations from Columbia St. Mary’s. “You must understand that the conditions in the hospitals were beneath basic,” said Karzai. “There were no patient beds, no incubators for infants, no operating tables. Surgeons literally were operating with kitchen knives and sewing needles,” she said.

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*The children of Afghanistan are the recipients of much needed backpacks and school supplies, thanks to a promise by Sandy Destrampe, Nurse Case Manager-CSM Hospital Ozaukee.*