

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LSU Opens Community Health Clinic in New Orleans East

Baton Rouge (May 9, 2008) – The Interim LSU Public Hospital is holding a press conference and ribbon cutting for the opening of its **LSU HCSD Community Clinic - New Orleans East**, 5501 Read Boulevard, in New Orleans, at 10:30 AM, Monday, May 12, 2008, at the clinic.

With an emphasis on prevention, this clinic and **LSU HCSD Community Clinic - Jackson Barracks**, 6460 N. Claiborne Avenue, provide direct family-centered services including internal medicine, pediatrics, telemedicine services, access to behavioral health, pharmacy assistance, and prenatal care.

“The clinic in New Orleans East allows LSU to continue its development of medical homes throughout New Orleans,” said Dr. Fred Cerise, LSU System vice president for health affairs and medical education. “Accessible health care is the first step in the delivery of quality health care.”

Clinic staff includes a physician, family nurse practitioner, and a licensed practical nurse.

“As we open clinics in the neighborhoods, we will provide preventive services that, in many instances, will subvert the need for later intervention on a larger scale,” said Dr. Dwayne Thomas, hospital administrator of the Interim LSU Public Hospital.

The clinic had been in operation under the management of Operation Blessing, and will continue operation due to the contributions of Greater St. Stephens Full Gospel Baptist Church and Operation Blessing.

For an appointment at the New Orleans East clinic, call 504-245-7951.

With an emphasis on prevention, **LSU- HCSD Community Clinics** at - **Murray Henderson**, 1911 Hendelee, **Frederick Douglass Senior High**, 3815 Burgundy St., and **Martin Behrman**, 725 Vallette St., provide comprehensive routine examinations, internal medicine, pediatrics, sports physicals, hearing and vision screens, immunizations, injury prevention, evidence-based chronic disease management (treatment for high blood pressure, obesity, diabetes, high cholesterol levels, and asthma), nonemergent acute care, sexually-transmitted disease screenings and treatment, stop-smoking programs, access to specialty care, injury prevention, telemedicine services, and assistance with obtaining needed medications.

The **LSU- HCSD School Based Health Center - O Perry Walker**, at 2832 General Meyer Ave., provides the aforementioned services but is available only to students.

LSU also has the following clinics at 1450 Poydras Street in the building that had housed the Lord and Taylor department store: dermatology, internal medicine, neurology, podiatry, endocrine, orthopedics, general surgery, plastic surgery, allergy, Coumadin, neurosurgery, rheumatology, ophthalmology, radiology, physical, speech and occupational therapy, vascular, physical medicine and rehabilitation, and telemedicine services. Clinics have a total of 96 exam rooms and 12 eye exam areas.

Clinic services are available from 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday.

The LSU Health Care System is one of the largest public health care delivery systems in the country. It has over 60,000 admissions, 350,000 patient days, 1 million outpatient visits, and over 350,000 emergency department visits. Each year 1700 residents from the LSU and Tulane Schools of Medicine and Ochsner Health System and 4,000 nurses and allied health students from many colleges and universities are trained in LSU facilities.

LSU is the largest single provider of uncompensated inpatient care in Louisiana. LSU hospitals have an economic impact of over \$1.6 billion in asset business activity, \$918 million in personal earnings, and support over 10,000 jobs.

For more information, contact Marvin McGraw, Director of Communications and Media Relations, LSU Health Care Services Division, 225.922.1424 or mmcgra@lsuhsc.edu.