

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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On June 8, 2017, St. Mary's Home for Children was recognized by Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island and the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce for improving the health and wellbeing of employees in the workplace. To be eligible for the award, a business must demonstrate they have an exceptional health and wellness program and health oriented workplace policies are in place. As an Exemplary award winner, the highest designation, St. Mary's offers staff ergonomic evaluations, yoga, weight loss assistance, chair massages, a wellness fair, self-care items, walking club and mindfulness activities. "

"As the state's largest health insurer, we're delighted to continue our partnership with the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce as co-sponsors of the 23rd annual Worksite Health Awards," said Kim Keck, president and CEO of BCBSRI. "Like all of the companies participating in the Worksite Health Awards, at BCBSRI we value the important connection between engaging employees in a robust wellbeing program and successful business performance."

"More than 20 years after launching the Worksite Health Awards, we remain awed by the hard work and commitment of those Rhode Island companies which go above and beyond to make workplace wellness a priority," said Laurie White, president of the Chamber. "We are once again pleased to partner with Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island to recognize local businesses and hopefully to inspire even more Rhode Island companies to find creative ways to help their employees live better, healthier and happier lives."

St. Mary's Home for Children has a rich history of serving children of the State of Rhode Island. From its beginnings as an orphanage in 1877, St. Mary's has addressed the social, therapeutic and mental health issues of children. During wartime, when fathers were off fighting, mothers would bring their children to St. Mary's for care so that they could work and support their families. When drug abuse became prevalent and parents could not care for their children, St. Mary's was there to provide a safe haven. As instances of sexual abuse were exposed, we were there to provide counseling and family therapy. Proudly, we have evolved into the areas most comprehensive treatment program for children who have been affected by abuse and neglect, exhibit extreme behavioral issues or experience psychiatric problems usually due to trauma they have endured. Children (girls 6-18, boys 6-13) are treated in our residential program and campus special education school. We also serve an out-patient population for sexual abuse assessment, counseling and family therapy (3 years of age and up). Enhanced Out-Patient Services, an in-home program provides clinical and case management services to at-risk families with the goal of preserving the family unit and preventing out of home placement of children.

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