



Lancaster Division

## PRESS RELEASE

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Ashley N. Shannon, Director  
Marketing & Community Relations  
shannona@musc.edu (803)286-1685  
Muschealth.org

### **MUSC Health – Lancaster Medical Center Engaging in Training for National Pediatric Readiness Designation**

Lancaster, SC (October 28, 2021) – The Emergency Departments (EDs) of the MUSC Health – Lancaster Division will engage in training exercises on November 3<sup>rd</sup> on the campus of MUSC Health – Lancaster Medical Center as part of participation in **The National Pediatric Readiness Project (NPRP)**. The National Pediatric Readiness Project is the largest, multi-phase, quality improvement initiative that ensures U.S. emergency departments have the essential guidelines and resources in place to provide effective emergency care to children.

A team from The MUSC Shawn Jenkins Children’s Hospital (SJCH) in Charleston, will be in Lancaster on November 3<sup>rd</sup> to offer a new biannual Pediatric Readiness Day to providers and staff which will include high-fidelity simulation scenarios facilitated by Dr. Amanda Price, Director for pediatric simulation at MUSC Children’s Health. As part of the effort, SJCH will become a hub site for Improving Pediatric Care Through Simulation (ImPACTS). MUSC Health – Lancaster Medical Center will be the first spoke site.

“We are thrilled that Dr. Hewitt and the Lancaster Division have been so invested in our pediatric care efforts and hope to expand these efforts throughout our system,” said Dr. Price. We hope to expand in the near future.”

The NPRP assessment helps ED personnel to be better prepared to provide quality care for all patients of all ages by evaluating the quality improvement process of EDs over time. Hospitals with high ED readiness scores demonstrate a 4-fold lower rate of mortality for children with critical illness than those with lower readiness scores; thus, improving pediatric readiness also improves outcomes for children and their families.

“Participating in the National Pediatric Readiness Project along with MUSC Shawn Jenkins Children’s Hospitals’ ED Pediatric SIM Day is a wonderful opportunity to ensure that our Emergency Departments are prepared to take care of the children in the communities that we serve,” said Keia V.R. Hewitt, MD, MBA, MPH, FACEP, MUSC Health – Lancaster Division’s Emergency Medical Director. “Our division is very excited to partner with MUSC Children’s Health to further sharpen critical pediatric emergency skills.”

The November 3<sup>rd</sup> event will be inclusive of staff inclusive across hospital disciplines as they participate in activities involving:

- Equipment and supply preparedness;
- Pediatric care competencies;
- Quality improvement planning;
- Policy and procedure reviews;
- Pediatric medication safety

The project is supported by the American College of Emergency Physicians, the Emergency Nurses Association, the Federal Emergency Medical Services (EMS) for Children Program, and the American Academy of Pediatrics.

For more information, please contact Ashley N. Shannon, Director of Marketing and Community Relations for the MUSC Health – Lancaster Division at 803-286-1685.

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