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Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital Wins Easter Seals Award

March 24, 2014 – Easter Seals will honor Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital with its Empowerment Award on June 18 for the hospital's work with some of the most severely injured Boston Marathon bombing survivors.

The award reflects Easter Seals' mission of ensuring that children and adults with disabilities have equal opportunities to live, learn, work and play. Spaulding, one of the nation's top rehabilitation hospitals, was singled out to receive the Empowerment Award in the "Live" category.

"As colleagues, Easter Seals and Spaulding work toward a common goal – empowering people with disabilities to reach their full potential," Easter Seals President Kirk Joslin said in announcing the award. "Spaulding also has been a generous Easter Seals supporter and works side-by-side with us in advocating for people with disabilities."

Spaulding also was cited for its community-based programs, which foster inclusion of people with disabilities and awareness, while improving the quality of their lives.

"We are so honored by this recognition from an organization whose mission and goals are so aligned with our own," said Oz Mondejar, senior vice president of Mission and Advocacy at Spaulding. "While no one could have imagined the tragic events surrounding the Marathon, at Spaulding we have always been committed to helping people recover to find the highest quality of life possible. It was our honor to once again be there in a time of great need and we will continue to join with great partners like Easter Seals to ensure that for people with disabilities nothing limits them from pursuing their dreams."

The Empowerment Awards are being presented for the first time this year at the annual Easter Seals "Evening of Empowerment." The event will be held at the State Room in Boston.

About Easter Seals

Easter Seals Massachusetts provides services to ensure that children and adults with disabilities have equal opportunities to live, learn, work and play. Nonprofit and nonsectarian, Easter Seals

offers technological assistance, employment and training services, recreational activities, youth transition and leadership programs, veterans' services, rehabilitation services and public awareness programs. For more information, call (800) 244-2756 or go to www.EasterSealsMa.org.

About the Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital

Founded in 1971, Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital in Boston is one of the largest rehabilitation facilities in the United States, and ranked the 6th top rehabilitation hospital in the country by U.S. News & World Report. As the official teaching hospital of the Harvard Medical School Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (PM&R), Spaulding is at the forefront of research in advances in rehabilitative care. In April 2013, Spaulding opened a new 132-bed facility in Charlestown which is a national model for environmental and inclusive design. With a wide range of inpatient programs and 23 outpatient centers throughout Eastern Massachusetts, Spaulding strives to continually update and improve its programs to offer patients the latest, high-quality care through its leading, expert providers. Spaulding has been awarded a Model Systems designation in three specialty areas- Brain Injury, Spinal Cord Injury and Brain Injury Rehabilitation- by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research. For more information, please visit www.spauldingrehab.org

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