Dr. Richard Adams Recognized for Helping Kids With Developmental Disabilities

Scottish Rite Hospital physician to be honored this week as the 2015 Opening Doors Leader

(FORT WORTH – April 22, 2015) – Dr. Richard Adams, medical director of Pediatric Developmental Disabilities at Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children, will be honored for his leadership in the Early Childhood Intervention field Thursday when MHMR Visions, the foundation arm of MHMR Tarrant, recognizes him as its 2015 Opening Doors Leader.

He will be recognized at the foundation’s 8th Annual Opening Doors Dinner at Joe T. Garcia’s in Fort Worth. A special aspect of the work of the foundation is its support of the North Central Texas Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) program. An appointee of the governor, Dr. Adams is chair of the Department of Assistive Rehabilitative Service ECI Interagency Coordinating Council.

“Dr. Adams has been a leader in our state advocating for services for children with developmental disabilities. We recognize him specifically for his work with Early Childhood Intervention,” said MHMR Visions Executive Director Nikki Hatley. “Dr. Adams is instrumental in assuring that children and families across Texas received high quality, evidence-based practices.”

In addition to his work at TSRHC, Dr. Adams is clinical professor of pediatrics at UT Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas. “I am truly privileged to receive the 2015 Opening Doors Leader award from MHMR Visions and to continue the proud tradition of those previously honored,” he said. “MHMR serves North Central Texas and thereby demonstrates its own leadership – supporting citizens, young and old, with serious mental health issues and those with intellectual disabilities.”

Dr. Adams is a member of the Camp John Marc Advisory Board, and for 18 years he has served as the medical director of Camp TLC, an annual camp for 100 youth with spina bifida. He was recently named chair emeritus of the Committee on Children with Disabilities of the Texas Pediatric Society and continues to work with Texas state agencies on behalf of children with special needs.

Dr. Adams was named the 2002 Child Advocate of the Year by the Greater Texas Chapter of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners and was the 2009 recipient of a Special Achievement Award from the American Academy of Pediatrics for his work on behalf of quality outcome measures for children with special needs across Texas. Dr. Adams has published widely in the field of developmental disabilities based on his clinical research efforts at TSRHC.
ABOUT TSHRC

Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children is one of the nation's leading pediatric centers for the treatment of orthopaedic conditions, certain related neurological disorders and learning disorders, such as dyslexia. Patients receive treatment regardless of the family's ability to pay. For more information, to volunteer or to make a donation, please call (214) 559-5000 or (800) 421-1121 or visit tsrhc.org.

ABOUT MHMR TARRANT:

For nearly 50 years, MHMR Tarrant has improved the lives of people with health care needs, such as substance abuse, psychiatric disorders, and intellectual delays and disabilities. Using innovative approaches, MHMR partners with individuals and families, and collaborates with other community organizations to provide services and a hopeful future. Early Childhood Intervention of North Central Texas is a division of MHMR Tarrant. For more information, visit MHMRtarrant.org.