

**Shields Health Care Group, Sturdy Memorial and Morton Hospitals  
to Open Cancer Care Center in Mansfield**

*State-of-the-art center to bring ease and convenience to local patients*

**Mansfield, MA** (Mar. 5, 2007) – **Shields Health Care Group**, the state’s largest provider of medical imaging services, will open a new state-of-the-art radiation oncology center in partnership with **Sturdy Memorial Hospital** of Attleboro and **Morton Hospital** of Taunton this spring.

Slated to open in June, this facility will be conveniently located on Forbes Blvd. in Mansfield, affording cancer patients in the southeastern MA area the opportunity to receive the level of care typically only available in Boston’s medical centers, without the burden of traveling.

The center will feature *4 Dimensional CT Simulation, Image Guided Radiation Technology (IGRT)* and *Respiratory Gating* – three highly advanced forms of cancer treatment offered in very few centers in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. This level of technology is rare in community settings but is typical of what Shields Oncology Services is about – providing the very best treatment in a warm suburban environment that is convenient for patients.

The center will also utilize Electronic Medical Records (EMR) capabilities with future plans to interface critical patient information to hospital based computer systems at both Sturdy Memorial and Morton – a unique service that greatly enhances patient care by providing efficient and accessible patient information to the Physician community.

“Shields and its partners have long been known for providing an unprecedented balance of convenient, compassionate patient care and state-of-the-art medical technology,” says Jack Shields, Shields Health Care Group President. “With this new highly advanced cancer care center, we are expanding our services and that of our partners, combining strengths to provide better, more convenient care to patients in the surrounding communities.”

“Morton Hospital is pleased to partner with Shields and Sturdy Memorial to provide state-of-the-art radiation therapy to cancer patients closer to home. “This is a unique opportunity to provide a much needed service to our patients in a more convenient location,” said Thomas Porter, CEO of Morton Hospital.

Dr. Bruce Auerbach, Vice President and Chief for Emergency and Ambulatory Services at Sturdy Memorial Hospital, concurs saying that “this new, innovative cancer treatment facility will enable Sturdy Memorial, along with its partners, to provide the highest level of cancer care in an easily accessible, state-of-the art facility. Our community members deserve convenient access to the highest level of cancer treatment, and this new facility will provide that.”

Shields Health Group is an independent, New England-based medical imaging provider with a national reputation for blending exceptional customer service with superior technology. A family owned and operated business for over 25 years; Shields Health Care Group operates a network of 23 imaging centers, which offer the most advanced diagnostic imaging services. A key element of the Shields network includes The South Suburban Oncology Center (SSOC) – the first of the Group’s cutting-edge, community-based radiation oncology centers located in Quincy, MA. SSOC is a partnership that includes Shields, Massachusetts General Hospital, South Shore Hospital and Quincy Medical Center.

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