

## **St. Joseph's Hospital in Orange Houses 40-Foot "Colossal Colon"**

### **Kids Crawl Through "Coco" the Colossal Colon To Learn about Cancer**

ORANGE, Calif. (October 00, 2008) – Coco the "Colossal Colon" is teaming up with St. Joseph Hospital to educate Orange County youth and residents about colorectal cancer. "Coco," as the Colossal Colon® is affectionately known will be showcased on Thursday, October 23, at The Center for Cancer Prevention and Treatment at 1000 W. La Veta in Orange.

Coco is a 40-foot long, 4-foot tall oversized model of the human colon that is designed to educate about colorectal cancer and other diseases of the colon. Visitors at St. Joseph Hospital who crawl through the Colossal Colon will see Crohn's disease, diverticulosis, ulcerative colitis, hemorrhoids, cancerous and non-cancerous polyps, and various stages of colon cancer.

The purpose of Coco's visit is to educate younger people about colorectal cancer. Adults and children from elementary schools across Orange County, including St. Joseph's Catholic School, St. Columbian Catholic School and St. Anne's Catholic school, will crawl through or look through windows to check out the various features inside Coco.

[About The Colossal Colon](#)

The Colossal Colon<sup>®</sup> is the creation of Molly McMaster, a colon cancer survivor who was diagnosed on her 23<sup>rd</sup> birthday, with help and support from Glens Falls Hospital in Glens Falls, NY. The Colossal Colon<sup>®</sup> is a project of The Colon Club and is dedicated to the memory of Amanda Sherwood Roberts, who lost her battle with colon cancer at age 27. The Colossal Colon<sup>®</sup> is sponsored nationally by Get Your Guts in Gear – The Ride for Crohn’s & Colitis (GYGIG). GYGIG creates and produces 3-day, 210-mile bicycle rides to raise awareness about Crohn’s disease, ulcerative colitis, and the needs of people living with ostomies. For more information about GYGIG, please visit [www.ibdride.com](http://www.ibdride.com). The Colossal Colon<sup>®</sup> was designed and built by Adirondack Scenic, Inc., a custom design and fabrication company. For more information about the Colossal Colon<sup>®</sup>, please visit [www.colossalcolon.com](http://www.colossalcolon.com).

#### About St. Joseph Hospital of Orange

Founded in 1929, St. Joseph Hospital in Orange is a 412-bed, not-for-profit Catholic hospital dedicated to extending the healthcare ministry of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange. St. Joseph Hospital’s reputation for compassionate care and clinical excellence – as well as its highly recognized 1,000-member medical staff -- has also earned it many nationally acclaimed distinctions: In 2007 & 2008, St. Joseph Hospital was named one of “America’s Best Hospitals” for Orthopedic Care by *U.S. News & World Report*. Out of the more than 5,400 hospitals initially surveyed by the magazine, St. Joseph Hospital’s Orthopedic Program ranked 41 among the top 50 for this specialty. The hospital was also named a Magnet hospital for nursing excellence in February 2007; the only hospital on

the West Coast selected to participate in the National Cancer Institute's Community Cancer Center Program; ranked a top hospital by the Leapfrog Group's Top Hospitals 2006 list; and named one of the nation's top Healing Hospitals by the Baptist Healing Trust for 2006 and 2007. In addition, St. Joseph Hospital's dedication to setting healthcare quality standards extends beyond the walls of the hospital's Orange campus. Through many outreach services, a free-standing medical and dental clinic, and four mobile health vans, St. Joseph Hospital meets the needs of the medically underserved. For more information about St. Joseph Hospital, visit our website at [www.sjo.org](http://www.sjo.org).

###