

NEWS RELEASE

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BROWN MEDICINE, CITY OF EAST PROVIDENCE "GO BLUE" FOR COLON CANCER AWARENESS Public event planned at City Hall March 21 at 6:00 pm

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (February 22, 2022): <u>Brown Medicine Endoscopy Center</u>, an outpatient medical suite dedicated to the prevention and treatment of digestive issues including colon cancer, is holding a special ceremonial event to commemorate March as Colon Cancer Awareness Month.

The event will be held outdoors at East Providence City Hall, 145 Taunton Avenue in East Providence from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and will move indoors if the weather is inclement. The general public is invited to attend, as are colon cancer survivors and their families. All are encouraged to wear blue clothing and bring a flashlight or cell phone with flashlight functionality to participate in a "Blue Light Walk" around the building. City Hall's exterior lights will be temporarily replaced with blue bulbs to bathe the walkers in blue-colored light, in a visual support of colorectal cancer awareness.

East Providence Mayor Roberto DaSilva, Brown Medicine Endoscopy Center Medical Director Harlan Rich, M.D., and East Providence Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Laura McNamara will make brief remarks. City Councilors, Center physicians and staff, and East Providence police and fire department officers and staff will be in attendance along with members of The Rotary Club of East Providence/Seekonk.

A special demonstration to help "kick cancer" will be conducted by a group of blue belt students who train at East Providence Martial Arts school.

"Colon cancer is preventable, treatable and beatable with proper screening to remove polyps, or clumps of cells, that can become cancerous," states Dr. Rich. "The age of 45 is now the new 50 to first get screened for many people, unless there is a family history. Prevention can also include eating a high-fiber diet, weight control, and increased physical activity. No one has to die from colon cancer."

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<u>The Brown Medicine Endoscopy Center</u> is a 9,000+ sq. ft. outpatient gastroenterology suite for performing diagnostic and therapeutic upper endoscopy and colonoscopy services. The Center features state-of-the-art technology, comfortable recovery rooms, easy highway access, and plenty of free parking at 62 Amaral Street in East Providence, RI.

Established in 2000, Brown Medicine is a nonprofit primary care, specialty outpatient and sub-specialty medical group practice with over 200 physicians and multiple patient care locations across the state of Rhode Island. One of the largest physician groups in Rhode Island, Brown Medicine is affiliated with The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, and employs most of the full-time faculty of Brown's Department of Medicine. Specialties and clinical divisions include: general internal medicine; primary care; diabetes and endocrinology; infectious disease; hospital medicine; hypertension and kidney diseases; hematology/oncology; nephrology; pulmonary, critical care and sleep; gastroenterology; rheumatology; travel; and geriatrics. Over 100,000 patients are served

annually from Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Connecticut and other states and countries. The three-part mission of Brown Medicine is high-level quality medical patient care, state-of-the-art clinical research studies, and dedicated teaching of more than 400 medical students, residents and fellows trained by Brown Medicine physicians annually. Brown Medicine is headquartered at 110 Elm Street in Providence, RI 02903; phone: 877-771-7401; web: www.BrownMed.org

Brown Medicine is part of Brown Physicians, Inc., a clinical, research and teaching affiliate of The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University.