





# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# University of Louisville School of Dentistry to Operate Dental Clinic on Home of the Innocents' Campus

UofL to take over Dentistry services in October 2021

**Louisville, Ky.** (Aug. 5, 2021) – In April, Home of the Innocents and Norton Children's Medical Group announced a partnership to begin on Oct. 1, in which Norton will take over the operations of Open Arms Children's Health, a service division of Home of the Innocents. Today, Home of the Innocents and UofL announce an enhancement to that partnership as the University of Louisville School of Dentistry will take over operations of the pediatric dental clinic at Open Arms Children's Health.

Since 2011, Open Arms Children's Health has cared for the dental needs of children across the Louisville community, particularly those for whom dental services are often difficult to access. While it serves all children in the community, the dental clinic at Open Arms specializes in providing quality dental care for children placed in foster care, children with autism spectrum disorder, children of refugees, and children with medical complexities.

The UofL School of Dentistry will elevate the dental services provided at Open Arms Children's Health to a higher level through expanded staffing and a full range of pediatric dental care. These services are supported by faculty, residents, and students from a dental school ranked in the top 50 worldwide according to the 2021 Global Ranking of Academic Subjects. After 10 years, Home of the Innocents is proud to bring in a successful, well-respected partner who can help Open Arms expand services to more children in the community and continue to provide care to those served by the organization.

"This partnership is such a natural progression for the Home," said Paul Robinson, Home of the Innocents President and CEO. "When our dental clinic first opened, UofL's School of Dentistry was right there with

us helping to make sure we could provide the best dental services to our community. We are very excited to welcome them back to our campus and look forward to working with them."

"Clinics like this one are a win-win. They help meet the oral health needs of underserved populations, while also providing externship opportunities for dental students and residents," said T. Gerard Bradley, Dean of the University of Louisville School of Dentistry. "Through these experiences, our students become not just more skilled, but also more compassionate. It takes both to be an outstanding dental provider."

All other Home of the Innocents services will remain unchanged, including The Village Pharmacy, Kosair Charities Pediatric Convalescent Center, all on-campus and community-based Behavioral Health Services, and The Aquatic Therapy Center.

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### **Home of the Innocents**

Home of the Innocents enriches the lives of children and families with hope, health, and happiness. Serving more than 10,000 children and their families last year, programs include a safe haven for at-risk children, clinical treatment services, crisis and intervention services, therapeutic loving foster care and adoption services, a pediatric convalescent center for children who are medically complex or terminally ill, and an integrated pediatric medical center, Open Arms Children's Health. For more information about Home of the Innocents, contact Meredith Pack at mpack@homeoftheinnocents.org or 502.596.1023.

# **Open Arms Children's Health**

Open Arms Children's Health meets the medical, dental, and behavioral needs of children, including those who have special needs. With services located under one roof, families do not have to drive from appointment to appointment. Children can see a doctor, dentist, or behavioral health therapist by simply walking from one exam room to another. Open Arms also provides pediatric audiology services and an on-site pharmacy that is open to the public.

# **University of Louisville**

Founded in 1798, the University of Louisville is a public research university located in Kentucky's largest metropolitan area. The university serves more than 22,000 students each year through undergraduate, graduate and professional programs in 12 colleges and schools. The university has been recognized and honored for efforts in research, community engagement initiatives and commitment to diversity. UofL is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges and is a member of the Atlantic Coast Conference for both academics and athletics.

Cutline 1 (OACHxray.jpg): Open Arms specializes in providing comprehensive, quality dental care for all children, including preventative care exams, cleanings, and sedation services.

Cutline 2 (OACHdental.jpg): Open Arms' care team is experienced with child behavior and development, and works with patients and families to provide the most comfortable experience possible.