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Phoenix Children's Hospital Continues to Recognize International Translation Day 2007
Hospital Translators and Interpreters will Educate Staff and Patients on the Importance of Providing Language Services

PHOENIX, Ariz. (Oct. 2, 2007) – In recognition of International Translation Day 2007, Phoenix Children's Hospital Language and Cultural Services Department at Phoenix Children's Hospital will recognize and educate hospital staff and patients on the important services that they provide on Wednesday, October 3 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the hospital cafeteria. Hospital interpreters will also go throughout the hospital giving information to staff, patients and visitors.

Interpreters and translators are an integral part of a hospital since one in six Americans speaks a language other than English at home.

"Our medical interpreters at Phoenix Children's Hospital and their counterparts in hospitals across the U.S. are an essential part in the delivery of quality care to patients. Research shows that the quality of language services are linked to the quality of medical care those non-English speaking patients receive," said Irma Bustamante, Language and Cultural Services Manager.

"When patients have difficulty communicating with their health care providers, they do not receive the best care possible. They are less likely to understand their conditions or adhere to medication and disease management recommendations. The interpreters do an excellent job, which helps the family trust us and get involved in helping their child heal and recover. As a doctor, I'm grateful for the services that our hospital interpreters provide in that they enhance the quality of care that a patient receives," said Michael Teodori, M.D., medical staff section chief for the cardiothoracic surgery department at Phoenix Children's Hospital.

Last fall, Phoenix Children's Hospital was selected to participate in the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Speaking Together program. This is a collaborative of 10 hospitals across the country that includes two children's hospitals--Phoenix Children's and Children's Hospital in Seattle. For more than 50 years,

International Translation Day has recognized and celebrated the important work of all language professionals.

Phoenix Children's Hospital is Arizona's leader in pediatric care and is one of the 10 largest free-standing children's hospitals in the nation. The most comprehensive array of pediatric specialists in the State practice at this one organization. The outstanding clinical expertise, as well as high patient volume, and an unwavering commitment to caring only for children, all contribute to Children's leadership position. For information about Phoenix Children's, visit the Hospital's award-winning website at www.phoenixchildrens.com.