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Construction Begins for New Health Sciences Research Building

Facility Includes Pediatric Research Partnership Between Emory and Children's Healthcare of Atlanta

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ATLANTA—Construction of a new Health Sciences Research Building on the Emory University campus will kick off with an official groundbreaking on June 15.

More than half of the new facility on Haygood Drive will focus on pediatric research through the Emory-Children's Pediatric Research Center, a partnership between Emory and Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, along with other institutions including Georgia Tech and Morehouse School of Medicine.

The new five-story building will encompass 200,000 gross square feet, with four stories above ground. A two-story working bridge will connect the new building to the Emory-Children's Center — a pediatric outpatient center adjacent to Children's Healthcare of Atlanta at Egleston that houses the largest pediatric specialty group practice in Georgia. In addition to pediatrics, the new research building will include investigations in cancer, immunology and drug discovery.

"In breaking ground for this new building, we celebrate our long partnership with Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and the momentum of our growing research collaborations," says S. Wright Caughman, MD, Emory executive vice president for health affairs and CEO of the Woodruff Health Sciences Center. "This partnership will lead to continued medical advances that will benefit pediatric and adult patients in Georgia and throughout the world and will help Emory and Children's reach the top ranks of pediatric research institutions."

"This is another monumental day for Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, Emory and for the children of Georgia and beyond as we are excited for the chance to further develop a robust pediatric research program," said Donna Hyland, President and CEO, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. "Atlanta is blessed with many fine institutions – like Emory – who believe in collaboration—and we will continue to grow because it's the collaboration among our clinical and academic professionals that will determine how much we are able to provide for Georgia's children now and in the future."

The building's open design, accommodating 65 lead researchers and their teams, will feature natural light in laboratories and corridors. The building will include a 175-seat auditorium and a café dining area with outside seating.

Designed by architecture firm ZGF (Zimmer Gunsul Frasca Architects LLP), the building is expected to be LEED-silver certified, with completion expected in April 2013.

With a cost of approximately \$90 million, the building will be financed primarily through philanthropic contributions, including a \$25 million grant from the Joseph B. Whitehead Foundation for the joint Emory-Children's research initiative, and contributions from the Robert W. Woodruff Foundation, the O. Wayne Rollins Foundation, the Zeist Foundation, Dr. Raymond Schinazi, the Georgia Research Alliance and an anonymous foundation.