From the University of Mississippi Medical Center Division of Public Affairs

FRIENDS OF CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL RECEIVES \$50,000 DONATION FROM 1ST FRANKLIN FINANCIAL

Media contact: Jen Hospodor at (601) 984-1105 or jhospodor@umc.edu. Photo can be found here

JACKSON, Miss. – The Mississippi branches of 1st Franklin Financial Corporation recently chose Friends of Children's Hospital to receive its annual charitable gift, presenting the group with a \$50,000 donation.

Friends will use the money toward their \$2 million fundraising goal for the Children's Heart Center at Batson Children's Hospital. The Children's Heart Center will bring together all of the pediatric cardiovascular services currently available at Batson under one roof.

1st Franklin Financial Corporation is a consumer finance business started in 1941. The company now has more than 270 branch offices in six southern states, including 34 in Mississippi.

Cutline: Dr. Rick Barr, center, the Suzan B. Thames Professor and Chair of Pediatrics, accepts a \$50,000 donation from 1st Franklin Financial representatives Carla Eldridge, fourth from left, and Pat Smith, fourth from right. Also attending the presentation are, from left, Friends board members Bruce Leach, 1st Franklin Financial representatives Chad Frederick and Marty Miskelly, Friends president Leigh Reeves and board members Melanie Morgan and John Scarbrough.

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5/20/2014

Please forward this message to colleagues who might be interested. If you wish to be removed from this list or know of a colleague to add, send an e-mail message to: jhospodor@umc.edu .

About Batson Hospital

Batson Children's Hospital, part of Children's of Mississippi, is located at the University of Mississippi Medical Center. It is the only hospital in the state devoted exclusively to the care and treatment of sick and injured youngsters. Batson houses the state's only Level I pediatric trauma unit, pediatric intensive care and cardiac intensive care units and our pediatric surgical suite is the only one of its kind offering inpatient clinical care for a wide range of specialty surgeries. The spectrum of care ranges from well-child care for healthy newborns to comprehensive care for cancer, epilepsy, cystic fibrosis, sickle cell anemia, allergies, diabetes and numerous other childhood illnesses.