

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** Friday, February 2, 2018 MEDIA CONTACT: Cathleen Randon 504-451-8735 cell Cathleen.randon@lcmchealth.org

## SKYBRIDGE WALKWAY TO BE TRANSPORTED UP RIVER AND INSTALLED AT CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

## Installation Serves as a Milestone in the Hospital's \$300 Million Transformation and Expansion

New Orleans (February 2, 2018) – As the Carnival season is underway, on Saturday morning, February 3, the Children's Hospital community will stage a different type of "parade," with the arrival of a skybridge, the elevated walkway that will connect patients and visitors to the hospital's main campus.

"Installing the skybridge will serve as a milestone in construction, as this walkway to health will serve as the link for patients and families, visitors and staff parking in the newly-constructed garage to easily access the hospital and clinic," said John Nickens IV, president and CEO of Children's Hospital. "The skybridge is a critical component in the \$300 million transformational expansion project, and will serve as another visual display of our commitment to children's health and well-being."

The transport of the skybridge from New Orleans Iron Works in Belle Chasse to Henry Clay Avenue will begin on Friday, February 2. The skybridge will be loaded on to a barge, travel through the Harvey Canal to the Mississippi River, where it will then travel upriver to the Nashville Street wharf. The walkway will be transferred to two Goldhofer trailers and moved down the levee and along Henry Clay Avenue Saturday morning, passing the hospital's main entrance, where it will remain in place until Sunday morning, when a large crane will hoist it for installation in its permanent location.

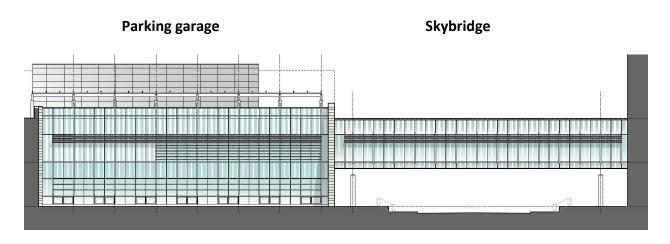
Henry Clay Avenue from Tchoupitoulas to the river will be temporarily closed to traffic Saturday, to allow for safe transport and installation, and again on Sunday during the installation. Calhoun Street will remain open for Emergency Room and hospital access, as well as Leake Avenue at State Street.

## FACTS AND STATS:

- Skybridge designed by Uzun + Case (structural engineers) and EYP Stanley Beaman & Sears (architects)
- Locally fabricated and constructed by New Orleans Iron Works, LLC

- Skybridge weighs 52 tons (105,000 pounds)
- 90 feet long
- 13 feet wide
- Transport assistance provided by the Port of New Orleans, B&G Crane Service, LLC







## About Children's Hospital New Orleans

Children's Hospital is a 224-bed, not-for-profit regional medical center offering the most advanced pediatric care to children from birth to 21 years. With more than 400 physicians trained in more than 40 subspecialties, it is the only full-service hospital exclusively for children in Louisiana and the Gulf South. For more information about the Children's Hospital expansion project, click on <u>www.chnola.org/expansion</u>.