



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Truman Medical Center Lakewood Family Birthplace  
Welcomes Its First Special Delivery**

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**Kansas City, Mo** — Truman Medical Center (TMC) Lakewood opened the newly expanded and renovated Lakewood Family Birthplace on Sunday evening, October 16, with the arrival of its first special delivery. Emma Nicole Steele, five pounds and fourteen ounces, seventeen inches long, was born at 7:46 pm making her the first baby born in the new spacious, family-centered Lakewood Family Birthplace.

“Being part of the delivery of any baby is an exciting experience,” said Peter Greenspan, DO, and Emma’s delivering physician. “The Lakewood Family Birthplace is family-centered and every aspect of it is focused on the needs, comfort and safety of our mothers, babies and their families.”

The Lakewood Family Birthplace includes a private, four-bed triage area for the early stages of labor, fetal monitoring telemetry allowing moms to walk during labor, epidural pain-management available 24/7 and two dedicated operating rooms so mothers never have to leave the unit once they arrive.

Once mothers enter active labor they will move to one of 19 beautiful Labor-Delivery-Recovery-Postpartum (LDRP) suites. Each private suite features a picturesque view of the Lakewood grounds, flat screen televisions and free Wi-Fi access for announcing their new addition to family and friends. Families can remain in the same room throughout their stay. Moms may opt to use the traditional Hill-Rom delivery bed during the course of their stay or the queen-sized Murphy Bed for more home-like comfort. A spa with jetted-tub is available for early labor and after-delivery comfort and relaxation.

Family-focused care does not begin or end with labor and delivery. The Lakewood Family Birthplace is staffed by a team of highly experienced and certified nurses as well as a

medical team featuring obstetricians, family medicine physicians and certified nurse midwives. TMC also offers pre-natal/childbirth classes and each new mom and dad will have the opportunity to take an education class, aimed at assisting them in the caring for their newborn at home. In addition, a lactation consultant is on-site to support moms pre and post-natal with breast-feeding concerns and education. The Terrific Moms Club (TMC) is a new mom's peer support group held weekly to give new mothers a chance to offer support and education for each other.

“The Lakewood Family Birthplace is the epitome of warmth and welcome for new mothers and babies,” said Charlie Shields, TMC Lakewood Chief Operating Officer. “While the physical center and amenities are top quality and encourage comfort, the real drivers of true quality are the dedicated physicians, nurses and staff that focus on the specific and individual needs of each and every patient and their family, exceeding any and all expectations for care.”

The Lakewood Family Birthplace would not be possible without the dedicated support of the 231 different individuals, corporations and foundations who provided more than \$3.5 million through special events, charitable grants and direct contributions since 2004.

“TMC financed the completion of the new Lakewood Family Birthplace with \$4.1 million in proceeds from a \$24.4 million Jackson County bond issuance,” TMC President/CEO John W. Bluford. “This bond was proposed by Jackson County Executive Mike Sanders and approved by the Jackson County Legislature and we appreciate their strong support of TMC in helping to make this project a reality.”

### **About TMC**

**Truman Medical Centers is a not-for-profit two acute-care hospital health system in Kansas City.** The TMC Health System includes TMC Hospital Hill, TMC Lakewood, TMC Behavioral Health, the Jackson County Health Department and a number of primary care practices throughout Eastern Jackson County. Recently named one of the nation's top academic medical centers, TMC is the primary teaching hospital for the University of Missouri-Kansas City Schools of Medicine, Nursing, Dentistry and Pharmacy and specializes in asthma, diabetes, family medicine, orthopaedics, trauma services and women's health. For more information, please call (816) 404-3785 or visit [www.trumed.org](http://www.trumed.org)