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**The Children's Institute of Pittsburgh Welcomes  
New Medical Director of Behavioral Health to Lead Expansion**

*Aileen Peralta Oandasan, MD joins as Medical Director, Behavioral Health Services*

PITTSBURGH, PA – March, 2016 – Aileen Peralta Oandasan, MD has joined The Children's Institute of Pittsburgh to serve as Medical Director of its new Behavioral Health Services, which will open an inpatient unit and offer outpatient services beginning in spring 2016.

Dr. Oandasan is board certified in psychiatry and child and adolescent psychiatry and was most recently Vice Chairman, Department of Behavioral Medicine and Medical Director, Child/Adolescent inpatient Psychiatry at Conemaugh Memorial Medical Center in Johnstown, PA.

“From her most recent leadership role to her experiences at The University of Texas, Johns Hopkins and Georgetown Universities, Dr. Oandasan brings an exceptional level of child and adolescent behavioral health expertise to our team. We are so pleased she has joined to lead this expansion of our services,” said Matthew Masiello, MD, MPH, FAAP, Chief Medical Officer at The Children's Institute. “Dr. Oandasan and our entire team will be able to integrate simultaneous treatment for both physical and behavioral health disorders, which will result in quality of life improvements for patients and more effective overall services.”

“It is an incredible opportunity for me to lead this initiative at The Children's Institute. The acute behavioral health inpatient unit will be able to meet the needs of an underserved population of children who experience behavioral health crisis and have a primary behavioral health diagnosis and a secondary diagnosis of a medical condition and/or developmental disability.” explained Dr. Oandasan. “As a

nationally and internationally acclaimed leader in pediatric rehabilitative services, this is a natural progression of growth for The Children’s Institute. Providing these services will further expand the breadth and depth of quality care for patients here.”

Prior to her role at Conemaugh Memorial Medical Center, Dr. Oandasan directed clinical services at the University of Texas, where she treated child and adolescent patients and gained particular expertise in treating the disruptive behavioral disorders, mood and anxiety disorders and autistic spectrum disorders. She provided clinical services both in person and through telepsychiatry support. She obtained her medical degree from the College of Medicine at Texas A&M University and was chief resident, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at Johns Hopkins University and chief resident, General Psychology at Georgetown University. A member of the American Academy of Child Psychiatry and the Pennsylvania Medical Society, she holds board certifications in Adult Psychiatry and Child and Adolescent Psychiatry from the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology.

#### **About The Children’s Institute**

Established in 1902, The Children’s Institute is an independent, nonprofit, licensed organization, dedicated to improving the quality of life for children, young people and their families by providing a specialized continuum of services that enables them to reach their potential. Its pediatric rehabilitation programs are nationally-recognized. The Children’s Institute is the only CARF-accredited freestanding pediatric specialty rehabilitation hospital in the region, and one of only five in the nation. The Day School is an approved private school serving nearly 200 students from 67 school districts. Through Project STAR, The Children’s Institute offers a wide array of family-centered adoption and foster care services. Visit [www.amazingkids.org](http://www.amazingkids.org) or call 412-420-2400 to learn more.

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