**Always Ready for Children (ARC) Elevator Pitch**

**Facility designation in Connecticut**

It is 2 am on a busy Tuesday overnight in your ED. A mom presents to triage holding a grey and mottled two week old infant — is our ED ready to care for this child? Do we have the equipment, medications, and trained staff in our department to care for this patient? Over 80% of children present in general emergency departments, are we ready? To help improve our readiness, the Connecticut Emergency Medical Services for Children program created the “Always Ready for Children” ED recognition program. The goal is to create an effective and sustainable method to ensure that all CT EDs are prepared to care for and stabilize children who need treatment for life threatening illnesses or injuries. Our children don’t decide their circumstances or where they live. They cannot influence how the emergency medical system works or the quality of care available to them…but WE can!