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Contacts:

Lauren Collins-Cline, Catholic Medical Center (603)663-8164 lcollin1@cmc-nh.org

Monika O'Clair, Huggins Hospital (603)515-2088 mclair@hugginshospital.org

Phil McFarland, Monadnock Community Hospital (603)924-4653 Philip.McFarland@mchmail.org

Catholic Medical Center, Huggins Hospital and Monadnock Community Hospital File Affiliation Agreement

Advancing their intent to provide high-quality and value-based health care for their communities, Catholic Medical Center (CMC), Huggins Hospital, and Monadnock Community Hospital are submitting a filing with the Charitable Trusts Unit of the New Hampshire Attorney General's Office detailing the terms of their affiliation. This filing comes after an extensive period of due diligence, approval of the agreement by all three hospital boards, and, with respect to CMC, approval of the Roman Catholic Bishop of Manchester.

CMC previously announced a Letter of Intent (LOI) to affiliate with Huggins Hospital in November, 2015 and an LOI with Monadnock Community Hospital in January, 2016. The agreement being reviewed by regulators will result in a more integrated healthcare system to serve the hospitals' respective communities.

"This New Hampshire-based, New Hampshire-focused collaboration allows us to effectively use our resources and expertise to improve quality, cost, and access to health care," said Dr. Joseph Pepe, President & CEO of Catholic Medical Center. "It builds on the long and successful existing clinical relationships between CMC and these two, strong critical access hospitals."

The affiliation is not an acquisition as no assets will be exchanged, nor is it a merger as staffs and physicians will continue to work for their respective hospitals. The affiliation allows for Huggins and Monadnock Community Hospitals to forge stronger ties in clinical partnerships with CMC, as well as leverage their resources to build economies of scale. The goals of this affiliation include providing quality care at a lower cost with added services and a seamless patient experience.

"We are excited to move forward in ensuring quality health care stays close to home," said Jeremy Roberge, Interim President & CEO of Huggins Hospital. "CMC and Huggins Hospital have been working together for many years to improve access to cardiology and vascular care for our patients and, in the last month, have begun collaborating on shared hospitalists."

Similar collaborations have also existed for years between CMC and Monadnock Community Hospital (MCH), which also work together on neurology and laboratory services. “We have successfully met the healthcare needs of the Monadnock region for 90 years,” said Cynthia McGuire, President & CEO of MCH. “This affiliation is a logical and strategic step to ensure that access to local, high-quality health care continues and grows for many years to come.”

Under the terms of the Affiliation Agreement, CMC, Huggins, and MCH will continue to operate with assets and liabilities remaining unchanged. Huggins and MCH will continue to be secular, non-profit community hospitals, and CMC will continue operating as a Catholic, non-profit acute healthcare system. The hospitals will maintain separate Boards as well as their respective charitable missions, values and traditions. Philanthropic gifts given to each hospital will be used to benefit their local community. Hospitals’ names, logos, and staff will remain. An overarching non-profit system parent called GraniteOne Health will ensure strategic direction and initiatives for the affiliated system.

The regulatory approval process will include further opportunities for comment by the general public and stakeholders of the three hospitals. Information is available through each hospital’s website, as well as on the website for GraniteOne Health (www.graniteonehealth.org). It is expected the affiliation will be approved and fully executed by the end of the year.

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ABOUT CMC: CMC is 330-bed acute care hospital located in Manchester, New Hampshire with 2500 employees and over 700 physicians, specialists and other providers working together to serve the health care needs of patients in the city and region. CMC is home to the nationally recognized New England Heart & Vascular Institute and is a Truven Analytics “Top 50 in the Nation” Cardiovascular Hospital. CMC was also named the 2015 Healthcare Business of the Year by Business NH Magazine.

ABOUT HUGGINS HOSPITAL: Huggins Hospital is a 25-bed Critical Access Hospital located in Wolfeboro, New Hampshire with 400 employees, serving 30,000 year-round residents and approximately 120,000 seasonal residents in the 14 towns in the Eastern Lakes Region. Huggins is recognized as a HEALTHSTRONG Hospital and has been named a Top 100 Critical Access Hospital for the past five years by iVantage Health Analytics as well as a Top 20 Critical Access Hospital for QUALITY in 2016.

ABOUT MCH: MCH is a 25-bed Critical Access Hospital located in Peterborough, New Hampshire with 500 employees , serving 40,000 residents in the 14 towns in the Eastern Monadnock Region. Monadnock is recognized for its extensive primary care network, specialty services, and wellness programming. MCH was named among the “Top 100 Critical Access Hospitals in the US” by ivantagehealth.com in 2015 and 2016.