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SANFORD AND MERITCARE CREATE A NEW HEALTH SYSTEM

New System focused on being one of nation's best

MEDIA NOTES

1. The merger is effective immediately today, November 2, 2009. The legal corporate name of the new organization is Sanford Health-MeritCare.
2. The southern region will continue to operate under the name Sanford Health and the northern region will continue to operate under the name MeritCare. This will be true with signage, logos, etc.
3. The new organization, as confirmed by the Health Care Advisory Board, is the largest, not-for-profit rural health care provider in the nation based on gross revenues, patient beds, and number of full time employees serving a significant patient volume outside of major metropolitan areas. The new Sanford and MeritCare organization encompasses six states: North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, and Oklahoma with 17,400 employees and an excess of 800 physicians, 70 specialty areas in medicine, 29 hospitals over 1,600 beds serving over 2 million people in the service area. The combined annual net revenue is \$2 billion.
4. Corporate offices will be located in both Fargo, N.D. and Sioux Falls, S.D. The Fargo office will be located in the Wells Fargo Bank building at 406 Main Street. The Sioux Falls corporate office will be in the new Sanford Center building at 2300 E. 60th Street.
5. Sanford Health and MeritCare will have equal representation from both Sanford and MeritCare Corporate Governance (Board of Trustees), Physician Governance (Council of Governors), and corporate officers. Organizational structures will be similar in the two regions with regional leaders assigned to respective medical centers, clinics and networks. Development and research programs will have leadership in both regions.
6. The trustees for the new Sanford-MeritCare Corporation are as follows:

MeritCare	Sanford Health
Pamela Anderson	Terry Baloun
Lauris Molbert, Vice Chair	Barry Martin
David Beito, Treasurer	Barb Stork, Secretary
Mark Paulson, MD	Michael Olson, MD
Terrance Grimm, MD	Ron Moquist, Chair
John Jambois	Jim Entenman
Jerry Feder	John VanderWoude, MD

7. In addition, for a limited period of time there will be a Sanford Corporate member and a MeritCare Corporate member for the new Sanford-MeritCare Corporation. This involves the current Boards of Trustees of each organization serving as the board of directors for these member organizations. These board members in addition to the others identified include: Ellen Earl-Chaffee, Judy Green, Don Morton, Ann Christianson, Dr. Kushal Handa, Dr. Roxanne Newman, Jack Reynolds, David Wilcox, Tony Truer, and Brent Teiken for MeritCare; and Bill Baker, Barb Everist, Michael Claar, Dr. Dean Madison, Dr. Tom Braithwaite, Dr. Rich Hardy, and Dr. Rod Parry for Sanford.
8. The new executive management leadership includes:
 - Kelby Krabbenhoft**, President and Chief Executive Officer, and the following corporate officers:
 - Dave Link**, Senior Executive Vice President (Sanford). Areas of responsibilities involve corporate development and research including Sanford Initiatives, Health Plan, Foundation, Information Technology.
 - Becky Nelson**, Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer (Sanford). Areas of responsibility involve health services in both regions including clinic, hospital, network operations.
 - Lisa Carlson**, Chief Financial Officer (MeritCare). Areas of responsibility involve financial management and operations and reimbursement.
 - Paul Richard**, Chief Legal Officer (MeritCare). Areas of responsibility involve legal affairs, public policy, compliance, risk management and assurance.
 - Bill Marlette**, Treasurer (Sanford). Areas of responsibility involve investments and asset management and financing.
 - Andrew Richburg**, Executive Vice President (MeritCare). Areas of responsibility involve planning, marketing, corporate communications, and public affairs.
 - A Chief Medical Officer position will be added. As planned, Dr. Roger Gilbertson is retiring as the President and Chief Executive Officer of MeritCare.
9. Presidents and senior corporate executives for the new organization include:
 - Northern Region**
 - Dr. Bruce Pitts**, President, MeritCare Medical Group
 - Dennis Millirons**, President, MeritCare Medical Center
 - Doug Vang**, President, MeritCare Health Network
 - Southern Region**
 - Dr. Dan Blue**, President, Sanford Clinic
 - Dr. Pat O'Brien**, President, Sanford USD Medical Center
 - Ed Weiland**, President, Sanford Health Network
 - Brian Mortenson**, President Sanford Health Foundation, **Ruth Krystopolski**, President, Sanford Health Plan, and **Kim Patrick**, General Counsel, are other executives in the new organization.
10. **Current Growth Plans for the Organization include:**
 - Southern Region** - The construction of a new Sanford Heart Hospital and a new research center building in Sioux Falls, as well as a new hospital in Aberdeen and a long term care facility in Chamberlain, both in South Dakota.
 - Northern Region** - Plans call for the construction of a 25 bed critical access hospital in Thief River Falls, Minn., and a new clinic in Mayville, North Dakota.
 - MeritCare Master Facility Plan** - Identify expansion for emergency, trauma, and air transport services, and a new, expanded Roger Maris Cancer Center and the Agassiz Crossing property in southwest Fargo is being evaluated for future development for growth purposes.