



Michigan Heart

*A Partner for Health.
A Partner for Life.*



News Release

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For Immediate Release

Michigan Heart, PC Joins Saint Joseph Mercy Health System
Health system continues to strengthen employed physician network portfolio

ANN ARBOR, Mich. – Saint Joseph Mercy Health System (SJMHS) and Michigan Heart, PC (MHPC) today announced a formal agreement where SJMHS will acquire MHPC, a physician-owned specialty practice in cardiovascular medicine and research. The acquisition is expected to be effective on or before December 31.

When the agreement is made official, Saint Joseph Mercy Health System will employ Michigan Heart's 326 employees – including 34 cardiologists and 10 nurse practitioners and physician assistants. No change in leadership at Michigan Heart is planned. Patients will continue to see their Michigan Heart doctors and continue to be cared for at the hospital of their choice.

“The transaction fits with our strategy to develop an aligned network of the region's top primary care physicians and specialists, and positions both organizations to succeed under future health care reform measures,” says Rob Casalou, president and CEO, St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor, Livingston and Saline hospitals. “By coming together, SJMHS and Michigan Heart will be able to improve patient-centered care, clinical quality, and open up more access to cost effective health care for all.”

Headquartered in Ann Arbor with eight locations serving southeast Michigan, Michigan Heart is a nationally recognized leader in comprehensive cardiovascular care, offering a broad range of expertise covering all of the subspecialties of cardiovascular medicine. Michigan Heart has been serving the community for more than 40 years and is recognized, respected, and sought on a national level.

“Because of the increasing complexity and rapid changes in health care, our physicians realized that we needed to find a new integrated model - one that fosters even better

coordinated care, improves our patient experience, and strives to decrease the cost of care,” explains Dr. Ben D. McCallister, Jr, president and chair of the board, Michigan Heart. “This exciting partnership is a vital step for Michigan Heart, allowing us to continue to provide our patients with nationally recognized high quality cardiovascular care throughout southeast Michigan.”

SJMHS is one of the largest health care delivery systems in Michigan, with an excellent reputation for quality, safety and patient loyalty. It is comprised of seven hospitals spanning six southeast Michigan counties.

Keith Burmeister, CEO of Michigan Heart, is confident the formalized affiliation will be mutually beneficial, as well as a seamless process. “Both Michigan Heart and St. Joe’s have provided care to shared patients for more than 40 years. We’ve always strived to embrace and emulate the culture of SJMHS. While our decision to enter this partnership is significant, it is a natural progression to formalize an already strong and patient-focused affiliation.”

“Saint Joseph Mercy Health System is growing a large, integrated network of outpatient services and physicians with a goal toward better coordinating care that is provided in more affordable settings for patients,” shares Beth Cafaro, vice president for health networks, Saint Joseph Mercy Health System. “Rather than wait for health reform to force changes upon us, we are taking proactive steps to ensure future success, before many of the reform act measures go into effect in 2014.”

For more information about the cardiovascular program at Saint Joseph Mercy Health System, visit stjoeshealth.org.

About Michigan Heart

Michigan Heart is a nationally recognized leader in comprehensive cardiovascular care - setting the standard for excellence, providing the highest quality care with outstanding results by promoting the most professional, thorough, and cost-conscious approach to patient care. Affiliated with trusted and renowned hospital systems, Michigan Heart has been serving the community for over 40 years and is recognized, respected, and sought on a national level. Headquartered in Ann Arbor with eight locations serving southeast Michigan, Michigan Heart is led by dedicated and talented physicians who offer a broad range of expertise covering all of the subspecialties of cardiovascular medicine.

About Saint Joseph Mercy Health System

Saint Joseph Mercy Health System (SJMHS) is a health care organization serving six counties in southeast Michigan including Livingston, Macomb, Oakland, St. Clair, Washtenaw and Wayne. It includes 537-bed St. Joseph Mercy in Ann Arbor, 443-bed St. Joseph Mercy Oakland in Pontiac, 304-bed St. Mary Mercy in Livonia, 136-bed St. Joseph Mercy Livingston in Howell, 119-bed St. Joseph Mercy Port Huron, 113-bed Chelsea Community Hospital and 74-bed St. Joseph Mercy Saline. Combined, the seven hospitals are licensed for 1,726 beds, have five outpatient health centers, four urgent care facilities, more than 25 specialty centers; employ more than 14,000 individuals and have a medical staff of nearly 2,700 physicians.

A member of Trinity Health, the nation's fourth largest Catholic health care organization, SJMHS is committed improving the health of its communities by reinvesting its profits back into the community through new technologies, vital health services, and access for all. The hospitals of SJMHS provide approximately \$100 million in community benefit to the communities it serves each year.

For more information on health services offered at Saint Joseph Mercy Health System, please visit www.stjoeshealth.org.