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PRESS RELEASE

Salina Regional Health Center, Cloud County Health Center to explore increased cooperation

(January 22, 2014) Salina Regional Health Center and Cloud County Health Center have agreed to retain services of a consulting company to explore areas of cooperation in patient care and potential models of alignment.

“We are blessed to be a strong organization and able to look to the years ahead and determine what are the best options for our patients, community and health center. Given the fact that a majority of the patients in our service area choose Salina Regional Health Center for tertiary care, it only makes sense that we explore increasing our partnership with Salina Regional. The months ahead will be exciting as we consider ways to enhance healthcare for patients,” said Don Bates, President & Chief Executive Officer of Cloud County Health Center.

Salina Regional Health Center and Cloud County Health Center are primary providers for the Concordia area. The focus of discussions will be on how patient care can be coordinated and improved.

“We are excited about the opportunity to explore cooperation to increase and improve health care services to patients and families in the Salina and Concordia areas well into the future,” said Micheal Terry, Chief Executive Officer of Salina Regional Health Center.

Consulting services will be provided by Marty Ekrem, founder and president of Vaquero Health Resources. Ekrem has more than 30 years of healthcare executive experience. Most recently, he was Vice President, Outreach Services, Via Christi Health (VCH) and President, Via Christi Solutions. He was responsible for developing and managing an array of clinical and business service offerings on behalf of VCH to non-VCH entities and its associated hospitals and physicians throughout Kansas.

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