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Mission and Pardee announce collaboration to expand healthcare services

(Hendersonville, N.C.) Mission Hospital and Pardee Hospital are collaborating on plans for a patient-focused, outpatient-oriented health campus which will improve access, quality and availability of cost-effective healthcare services to residents of south Buncombe and north Henderson counties.

“Mission and Pardee have a very successful history of working together to advance quality healthcare and effectively serve our region. We’ve heard from residents and physicians in the south Buncombe and north Henderson area and after considerable collaborative planning, we are pleased to announce this exciting project that supports our common mission of enhancing healthcare in the region,” said Kris Hoce, President and CEO of Pardee Hospital.

The proposed location for the collaborative health campus is along Hendersonville Rd., in the town of Fletcher, on the Buncombe County and Henderson County line. The project is currently being planned as a two-level, approximately 130,000 square foot building. In addition to wellness and prevention programs, proposed services include imaging, surgery, emergency, rehabilitation, pharmacy, lab, and physician offices. Construction is scheduled to begin in the spring of 2011. “This



health campus, which continues to evolve, is being designed by locally-based, community-owned hospitals to meet the specific healthcare needs of this growing area. When it is complete, it will provide high quality and convenient “one-stop” service for outpatient healthcare needs. There will not be a health facility like it in western N.C., which makes the project even more exciting. Health and wellness programs will be an important part of our health campus, making it an excellent complement to the proposed Heart of Fletcher initiative that will include public spaces, such as greenways and parks, that promote healthy activities such as walking, running and cycling,” Hoce added.

“As we continue to refine plans, we are working with physicians who practice at our hospitals to create an outpatient environment that will enhance our focus on quality,” said Carleton Rider, Interim President and CEO of Mission Health System. “For the past two years both hospitals have been recognized by the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) and the Dartmouth Health Atlas for providing high quality, low cost healthcare services to our region. Bringing needed services closer to the people of these communities is part of our commitment to increase access to care and improve the health of our region.”

The project will also bring an economic boost to Fletcher, Rider noted. “While the scope of the project is still being finalized, early indications are that the project will create between 150 and 200 construction jobs. Once completed, there will be jobs





created at this location that don't currently exist, creating a ripple effect over time," Rider said.

Mission Hospital, a 730-bed community-owned not-for-profit hospital founded in 1885, is part of Mission Health System. In addition to serving as the community hospital for Buncombe and Madison counties, Mission Hospital also provides tertiary care for western N.C.'s 18 counties.

Pardee Hospital is the only hospital owned by the residents of Henderson County. Founded in 1953, it is a not-for-profit hospital licensed for 222 acute care beds and is the second largest employer in Henderson County. The hospital has several locations separate from the main campus, including an adult day services center, a health education center in the Blue Ridge Mall, home care services, a rehab and wellness center, various physician practices, and an urgent care facility. For more information or to find a physician, call 1-866-790-WELL (9355) or visit www.pardeehospital.org.

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