

For Immediate Release

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HCC of Rural Missouri to Assume Ownership of Concordia and Waverly Clinics June 1

(April 22, 2013 Lexington, MO) – The Health Care Collaborative (HCC) of Rural Missouri will assume ownership of the Concordia and Waverly clinics on June 1. The Waverly clinic will provide primary care, dental, mental health, disease management as well as specialty care. The Concordia clinic will provide urgent care services. Both clinics will serve insured, uninsured, Medicaid and Medicare patients.

Under HCC's ownership, the clinics will be renamed "Live Well Health & Wellness Community Health Center, Concordia," and "Live Well Health & Wellness Community Health Center, Waverly."

"The Live Well Health & Wellness Centers of Waverly and Concordia are a collaborative effort to provide health care for people regardless of their ability to pay," said HCC Executive Director Toniann Richard. "We want to create health homes for area residents that treat the whole person. We believe that if we make navigating through the health care system easier, we will help the people we serve become better stewards of their health. This means lowering the incidence of preventable disease."

The HCC is also making moves to ensure the clinics' best practices include health literacy, so that patients and medical staff are able to communicate clearly and effectively. These efforts will also focus on the clinics' migrant farm worker population.

"This is a collaborative effort in the truest sense," said Richard. "The HCC has been working with funders, national, state and regional stakeholders, community partners and HCC Network leadership for the past four and a half years to address the unmet need in rural Lafayette County, particularly around dental services in the Waverly and Concordia area for Medicaid covered children. Our most sincere gratitude goes out to the individuals who have spent much time and effort on this project and their continued belief in the mission of HCC."

Financial support for the clinics has been provided by both Lafayette Regional Health Center (LRHC) and Pathways Community Health. Additionally, the clinics have been supported through funding by the REACH Healthcare Foundation's Rural Health Initiative, Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City, Health Resources Services Administration, Bureau of Primary Health Care and the Office of Rural Health Policy.

HCC has also applied for Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) Look Alike and New Access Point status for both rural health clinics. The status of that application will be made public later this summer. For more information, contact Toniann Richard at 660.259.2440, or visit HCCNetwork.org. Currently, both clinics are owned by LRHC.

About the HCC

The Health Care Collaborative of Rural Missouri collaborates with area agencies, businesses and other non-profits to advocate for the health and well being of Lafayette County residents. Among HCC's current programs are:

- Health information technology initiatives to equip health care providers with the resources needed to offer telemedicine and telehealth services that increase patient access to quality health care;
- Social Innovation for Missouri (SIM) that addresses tobacco cessation and obesity prevention; among other programs; and
- Telehealth Outreach Diabetes and Depression Program (TODD), designed to improve the health status of individuals with diabetes and/or depression.