

WYOMING, MI, May 24, 2014 **/24-7PressRelease/** -- Under the vision created by James K. Haveman, director of the Michigan Department of Community Health, Metro Health, Hope Network and Mercy Health Saint Mary's have joined forces to create an integrated health care center, named Peoples' Health Centers of Michigan. This new collaboration will provide expanded services to more under-served patients in West Michigan.

The Metro Health Community Clinic, currently located on Breton Road SE in Grand Rapids, will move later this month and share space with Hope Network and Mercy Health Saint Mary's on Hope Network's 36th Street Campus at 781 36th Street SE in Wyoming. Together, the partners will provide comprehensive medical, dental and behavioral health services to low-income families and others without reliable access to medical care.

Metro Health Community Clinic offers a maternal-infant health program, emergency food pantry, on-site social worker, on-site behavioral health services provided by Network 180, prescription assistance program and others services. Additionally, Ferris State University will provide hands-on teaching experience for its pharmacy students.

Hope Network, which serves people who suffer from mental, physical or social barriers that impact the way they live, will provide behavioral health services. Soon after the clinic starts seeing patients at its new location on June 2, Mercy Health Saint Mary's will offer dental services.

The three partners held a dedication of the new center earlier today with comments from Haveman and leadership from the three organizations. Haveman gave the partnership high praise for providing expanded services to people in need.

"As the healthcare industry continues to move toward a model focusing on integrated care that serves the whole person, collaborations such as these serve as an integral part of our communities," said Haveman. "I applaud Metro Health, Hope Network and Mercy Health Saint Mary's for taking steps to better improve the comprehensive care provided to our most vulnerable residents."

The new health center will remain home to Metro's residency programs, which has 40+ doctors in family medicine, internal medicine, ob-gyn, general surgery and urology. From its footprint of more than 20,000 square feet of space, the clinic will continue to provide ultra-sound, X-ray, urology, osteopathic manipulative medicine and other healthcare services.

"We are so pleased to partner with Hope Network and Mercy Health to expand the breadth of services we offer to those in the greatest need," said Mike Faas, president and CEO of Metro Health. "We remain committed to being good stewards with our resources and to giving back to the community where we live and work.

"The relocation of this clinic allows us to connect more fully with two like-minded partners that enable us to expand our service offerings in a more centrally located and accessible location. We look forward to growing our Community Clinic together with Hope Network and Mercy Health."

Hope Network has been partnering with other community clinics in the area, and is excited to do more.

"We currently provide behavioral health services at Mercy Health St. Mary's Heartside Clinic and Clinica Santa Maria, and will partner with the new Center to do the same," said Phil Weaver, president and CEO of Hope Network. "With one in four people living with a mental illness and 60 percent of those not getting help, it's important to make treatment more accessible to people in need."

Mercy Health Saint Mary's will provide dental services at the location, called the Mercy Health Dental Clinic. Medicaid and all insurances accepted by Mercy Health Saint Mary's and Medicaid will be accepted by the clinic. Mercy Health Saint Mary's will staff the dental clinic with hygienists and dentists to provide comprehensive preventive and restorative dental services, including fillings, extractions, root canals, crowns and bridges. The clinic hopes to see its first patient by June 10.

"Access to dental care is a key need for the community and many of our patients," noted Bill Manns, president of Mercy Health Saint Mary's. "The new Mercy Health Dental Clinic expresses our mission as a health care home, and we value the collaboration that has made this facility possible."

About Metro Health An award-winning leader in community healthcare, Metro Health serves more than 250,000 patients annually from across West Michigan - and beyond. In addition to its 208-bed hospital, which provides a comprehensive suite of inpatient and outpatient healthcare

services, Metro Health has a growing number neighborhood outpatient centers and offices throughout West Michigan, as well as a community clinic for the underserved and student health clinics at Grand Valley State University and Aquinas College. With more than 500 physicians on staff, Metro Health provides a growing number of specialty health services, including cancer treatment, heart and vascular, neurology, pulmonology and others. Many are members of the Metro Health Medical Group. The hospital is committed to promoting health and wellness through the work of the Metro Health Hospital Foundation, Live Healthy community outreach classes and educational programs and more. Visit us <http://www.metrohealth.net>, follow us on Twitter @MetroHealthGr and like us on Facebook/MetroHealth.

About Hope Network Right now more than 60 million people in the U.S. suffer from physical, mental or social barriers that impact how they live. One million of them live here in Michigan. That's larger than the population of Detroit. A majority have fallen through the cracks and aren't receiving the care they deserve. At Hope Network, we are advocates for those people. For 50 years, Hope Network has provided neuro-rehabilitation, behavioral health, developmental and support services that give people a chance to overcome life's challenges. We do this because every person was created to live life to the fullest. Whether someone needs intensive therapy, a ride to an appointment or any one of our many community support services, we're ready to serve. The results are countless stories of recovery, restoration and hope. For more information about Hope Network, visit <http://www.hopenetwork.org>

About Mercy Health Mercy Health is a multi-campus health care system dedicated to providing highly personalized care, excellent access to primary care providers and specialists and a more informed patient experience. Mercy Health serves West Michigan and the lakeshore with five hospital campuses, 58 physician offices, more than 1,300 medical staff physicians, more than 800 hospital beds and 7,200 associates, and hospice, home health and long term care service offerings. Mercy Health Physician Partners, our multi-specialty physician network, employs a total of 491 physicians and advanced practice professionals in Grand Rapids, Muskegon and the Lakeshore. The system includes leading teaching hospitals, and renowned clinical leadership in oncology, cardiology, orthopedics and neurology. Mercy Health Saint Mary's is a Magnet -recognized hospital. Mercy Health is a regional health ministry of Livonia, Mich.-based CHE Trinity Health, one of the largest multi-institutional Catholic health care delivery systems in the nation. It serves people and communities in 21 states from coast to coast with 82 hospitals, 89 continuing care facilities and home health and hospice programs that provide nearly 2.8 million visits annually. Visit us at [MercyHealth.com](http://MercyHealth.com) and [MercyHealthPhysicianPartners.com](http://MercyHealthPhysicianPartners.com) and find us on Facebook at <http://www.Facebook.com/WeAreMercyHealth>.