



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 30, 2017

Lisa McMichael for Harbor Hospice
231-728-6804 or LMcMichael@harborhospicemi.org

Trisha Vermeersch for Mercy Health Hospice (Trinity Health At Home)
734-543-8265 or VermeerT@trinity-health.org

Angela Klinske for Mercy Health
616-685-1897 or KlinskeA@mercyhealth.com

Harbor Hospice and Mercy Health Hospice unite to expand hospice care and bereavement services in West Michigan communities

Muskegon, Mich. – Harbor Hospice and Mercy Health Hospice, trusted, non-profit organizations providing hospice and palliative care in the lakeshore community, today announced the agencies have united as one hospice care organization via a joint venture agreement, effective January 29, 2017.

"For several decades, Harbor Hospice and Mercy Health Hospice have provided exceptional care to patients and their loved ones throughout the lakeshore community," said Lisa McMichael, CEO of Harbor Hospice. "We have deep legacies of outstanding, tailored care that meets the unique needs of individual patients. With shared resources, this union enables high-quality care for more people who need us most throughout West Michigan."

The strengthened organization will operate as Harbor Hospice. Based at the current Harbor Hospice office in Muskegon, this coming together brings benefits of an expanded team and greater reach throughout the lakeshore area.

The new Harbor Hospice includes the distinguished 14-bed Poppen Hospice Residence – a legacy made possible through the philanthropic support of Sherm Poppen and Leila Reynolds. The organization also includes the Scolnik Healing Center program, a beloved community resource created with philanthropic support from Merle and Bob Scolnik. Harbor Hospice will continue the Scolnik Healing Center program, offering professional grief counseling, support groups and special events for adults and youth.

Mercy Health VNS and Mercy Health Hospice are part of Trinity Health At Home, a ministry of Trinity Health, one of the largest Catholic health care systems in the United States. Mercy Health VNS, based at its Muskegon office, will continue to operate as West Michigan's premier provider of home care services.

"Harbor Hospice and Mercy Health Hospice are driven by a similar mission of providing compassionate care and being a positive resource," said Erin Denholm, president and CEO of Trinity Health At Home. "Harbor Hospice will remain committed to everyone regardless of their ability to pay and be a healing presence within our communities. Bringing these two organizations together will result in an even stronger organization to benefit those we serve in Muskegon and the lakeshore community."

###

About Harbor Hospice

Harbor Hospice care offers specialized health care with expertise in pain and symptom management, emotional support and spiritual care, as well as grief counseling for family members anticipating or following the death of their loved one. Harbor Hospice lives its mission to provide empathy, expertise and excellence in end of life caring. Harbor Hospice was the first in the region to offer professional hospice care and today remains a trusted, respected hospice care provider. HarborHospiceMI.org.

Harbor Hospice
1050 W. Western Ave.
Suite 400
Muskegon, MI 49441

Poppen Residence
2065 East Mt. Garfield Road
Muskegon, MI 49444

About Mercy Health Hospice and Trinity Health At Home

Mercy Health Hospice provides home-based end-of-life care throughout West Michigan. It is well known for its bereavement services that have positively impacted the lives of thousands of people navigating the challenge of losing a loved one.

Mercy Health Hospice is part of Trinity Health At Home, a National Health Ministry of Trinity Health, one of the largest Catholic health care systems in the United States. With a family of agencies across the United States, Trinity Health At Home is recognized as a provider of choice for home care and hospice care. Trinity Health At Home's network of agencies provides care seven days a week, assigning consistent, highly-trained caregivers and offering specialized programs such as palliative care, fall prevention and advanced wound care, end of life care and support and transitional care programs. Trinity Health At Home is recognized as an innovative partner to risk-based providers and ACOs with THAH's alternative services programs to support patients with complex disease management needs. TrinityHealthAtHome.org.

Mercy Health VNS and Hospice
Scolnik Healing Center
888 Terrace
Muskegon, MI 49440