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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**St. James Mercy Hospital to Seek Buyer for McAuley Manor at Mercycare**

*Hospital to Also Seek New Homes for Three Ventilator Unit Residents*

**HORNELL, NY (May 21, 2014)** -- St. James Mercy Health System announced today it is pursuing the sale of its long-term care facility, McAuley Manor at Mercycare, as part of its transformation to an ambulatory-care focused system. The hospital also said it plans to relocate three ventilator-dependent residents from their location at McAuley Manor, with eventual closure of the unit.

“We value the residents and employees of McAuley Manor, and we will work hard to minimize the impact of the potential sale on them,” said Jennifer Sullivan, president and CEO, St. James Mercy Health System. “Ultimately, as part of our transformation, we know McAuley Manor will be best served by an organization that specializes in long-term care and can ensure the residents and their families continue to receive the high quality care our employees provide today.

“For the ventilator unit at McAuley Manor, once we find new homes for the three residents, we will close the unit,” Sullivan said. “There is very little demand for the chronic ventilator service at McAuley Manor, and we can no longer afford to offer this service.”

As part of the relocation of residents and closure of the ventilator unit, St. James Mercy Hospital will submit a Certificate of Need (CON) application to the New York State Department of Health, seeking approval of the unit closure.

The sale of McAuley Manor is expected to take several months, according to St. James Mercy officials.

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