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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

St. James Mercy Health System and UR Medicine Seek to Reinvent Health Care in Hornell

HORNELL, NY (April 30, 2014) – St. James Mercy Health System (SJMHS) has announced that it will work with Rochester-based UR Medicine on a plan to preserve quality health care services in Hornell. The plan is contingent upon securing funds needed to transition from traditional hospital-based care to a more robust array of outpatient-focused services that support Hornell area residents and their physicians.

“We are confident UR Medicine shares our vision for healthcare in our community and around the region. UR Medicine offers the administrative and medical expertise to help us improve patient care and the patient experience through a more efficient, patient-centered and coordinated system that focuses on the way that medicine will be delivered in the future,” said Jennifer Sullivan, SJMHS president and CEO. “To realize our vision, we’ll need financial support, and one of the most promising avenues we’ll pursue is a newly established pool of state funds set aside to help communities reinvent their health care services.”

On April 14, Governor Cuomo announced that the State of New York finalized terms and conditions with the federal government that will allow the state to invest \$8 billion to transform its health care system. Through a Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) process, the federal dollars will address critical issues across the state, including access to local healthcare services. Under DSRIP, “safety net providers” such as SJMH will be required to collaborate with other healthcare providers in the region to implement innovative projects focused on system transformation, clinical improvement, and population health improvement, while demonstrating financial viability.

“SJMHS plans to apply for waiver funding through the Interim Access Assurance Fund, which will provide funding through early 2015 to ensure SJMH can transform without disruption,” Sullivan said. “This is an unprecedented opportunity to pursue reform of the local delivery system that will ensure the continued, uninterrupted provision of healthcare services in Hornell.”

Sullivan emphasized that discussions between SJMH and UR Medicine have yet to be finalized, must be approved by the University Trustees, and are contingent upon obtaining fiscal support for any plan developed. “Moving forward, the sharing of additional information through the due diligence process will help clarify the potential structure of the partnership

and the services to be provided in Hornell,” said Sullivan. “UR Medicine will review the work of the New Vision Task Force and meet with Hornell’s local physicians to determine what services are needed and, if financially viable, how they can best be provided.”

The recommendation to partner with UR Medicine was reached by SJMHS’s New Vision Task Force (a group comprised SJMH medical staff, rural and tertiary healthcare experts, hospital leadership, financial experts and community leaders charged with exploring options for sustainable health care in Hornell) and the SJMHS Strategic Planning/Finance Committee, and approved by the SJMHS board of directors.

Founded in 1890 and based in Hornell, NY, St. James Mercy Hospital is a not-for-profit health organization sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy that provides care in Steuben and surrounding counties, with emphasis on the poor and underserved. St. James Mercy Hospital is a member of CHE Trinity Health, a multi-institutional network. For more information, visit www.stjamesmercy.org.

UR Medicine operates Strong Memorial Hospital and Highland Hospital (both in Rochester), and Thompson Health (Canandaigua). UR Medicine also has formal collaborative clinical relationships with Jones Memorial Hospital (Wellsville), Nicholas Noyes Memorial Hospital (Dansville), and Wyoming County Community Health System (Warsaw).

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