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COMMUNITY PHYSICIANS SUPPORT THE FORTUNE 100

Community Physicians, the Fortune 100, and the Department of Health and Human Services on the Same Page?

East Brunswick, NJ, December 6 – Partners In Care, Corp., (“PIC”) a physician organization serving over 850 private practice physicians announced that it is the first physician organization in the country to sign the “Statement of Support for the Four Cornerstones of Value-driven Health Care” recently released by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Committing to the “Four Cornerstones” is an important step in implementing the Executive Order on health care transparency signed by President Bush in August of this year. By signing the statement Partners In Care is voluntarily agreeing to purchase health care on behalf of its employees based on overall value, quality and efficiency of care. As physicians, PIC is validating the need for open information exchange as a means to improving the health of the population.

“Physicians need transparency in clinical results in order to effectively treat their patients,” said Steven Goldberg, MD., Chairman, Partners In Care. “It makes sense that we use the same approach to diagnose and treat the ills of the health care system nationally.”

Partners In Care has had unprecedented access to claims, enrollment, and billing data for over 750,000 people. We have seen first hand how providing this information in a timely manner to physicians can save both lives and money. We have also seen the pain and suffering first hand when the information is not readily available on a timely basis. It is our vision that organized medicine, business, and government collaborate around this value set to improve the lives of the people we serve.

“The availability of information exchange technology, quality information, and pricing information is rapidly evolving from a theoretical exercise to a clinical imperative.” said Kevin O’Brien, President & CEO, Partners In Care. “Physicians must have access to all of this information while in the exam room to ensure patients adhere to their care plan.”

The “Statement of Support for the Four Cornerstones of Value-driven Health Care” was electronically released to employers on Nov. 16. The “Four Cornerstones” are:

- Support health information technology
- Provide quality information
- Provide pricing information
- Promote quality and efficiency of care

HHS is asking that 100 of the largest purchasers of health care in the country voluntarily sign the statement of support and commit to the principles by the end of the year. More information about the “Four Cornerstones” is available at www.hhs.gov/transparency.

About Partners In Care, Corp.

Physician owned and governed, Partners In Care is a physician organization dedicated to 21st century health care delivery and financing. Partners In Care has been successfully operating performance-based incentive programs involving approximately 80,000 members over the past ten years. As a leading Health Care Delivery System Management firm, PIC serves three participating physician groups: the United Medical Group, PC, Central Jersey Physician Network, and Vista Health System. These groups collectively represent approximately 850 physicians, serving about 1 million patients, and deliver/coordinate over \$2 billion in annual healthcare expenditures. PIC currently provides health plan improvement services to a number of health plans and employer/plan sponsors. The clinical/financial reporting capability allows PIC to deliver actionable information to physicians who participate in our various programs.

For further information please visit: www.piccorp.com

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