



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contacts:

Lisa Guerrero, Director of Marketing
Lake Area Medical Center
(337) 475-4102, lisa.guerrero@lakeareamc.com

Heather Hidalgo, Director of Marketing and Communications
CHRISTUS St. Patrick Health System
(337) 842-7301, heather.hidalgo@christushealth.org

**AGREEMENT SIGNED TO SELL LAKE AREA MEDICAL
CENTER TO CHRISTUS HEALTH**

*Affiliation Will Develop Regional Healthcare Network to Coordinate
Resources for Southwest Louisiana*

LAKE CHARLES, La., May 1, 2017 – Lake Area Medical Center announced today it will soon become affiliated with CHRISTUS Health through an acquisition agreement that includes the sale of the hospital and its associated assets.

CHRISTUS Health also operates CHRISTUS St. Patrick Health System in Lake Charles.

"Our mission for the last 150 years has been to extend the healing ministry of Jesus Christ, and with the announcement of this agreement, we are continuing to build upon and strengthen our mission for years to come," said Ernie Sadau, president and chief executive officer for CHRISTUS Health. "CHRISTUS is committed to ensuring Lake Charles residents continue to have access to compassionate care of the highest quality. This agreement will ensure the continued availability of high quality care close to home."

"Lake Area Medical Center will continue to play an important role in providing quality health care for Lake Charles," said Bryan Bateman, chief executive officer of Lake Area Medical Center. "Affiliating with CHRISTUS Health will enhance the health services and resources our organizations offer our community."

The purchase agreement includes a commitment from CHRISTUS Health to offer employment to active employees in good standing when the transaction is complete. Privileges will continue for all physicians in good standing on the medical staff.

"As one organization, the talented physicians and Associates of Lake Area Medical Center and CHRISTUS St. Patrick will work together as the region's premier healthcare provider," said Stephen Wright, senior vice president of Group Operations for CHRISTUS Health in Louisiana. "We look forward to

continuing to serve southwest Louisiana for many years to come.”

The transaction is expected to close in the second quarter of this year, subject to customary regulatory approvals and closing conditions. Until the transaction is complete, current ownership remains in place.

###

About Lake Area Medical Center

Lake Area Medical Center (LAMC) is a full-service acute care hospital located at 4200 Nelson Road in Lake Charles, Louisiana. Lake Area Medical Center is the area’s preferred leader for Women’s Services and offers inpatient, outpatient, medical and surgical care for men, women and children. LAMC is an accredited Bariatric Surgery Center and is equipped with a 24-hour physician-staffed Emergency Department and a Level 3 Neonatal ICU.

About CHRISTUS Health

CHRISTUS Health, an international Catholic, faith-based, not-for-profit health system, is headquartered in Dallas and is comprised of almost 600 services and facilities, including more than 60 hospitals and long-term care facilities, 350 clinics and outpatient centers and dozens of other health ministries and ventures. CHRISTUS services can be found in Texas, Arkansas, Iowa, Louisiana, New Mexico, Georgia, Mexico, Chile and Colombia. The system employs approximately 45,000 Associates and has over 15,000 physicians on facility medical staffs who provide care and support for patients. CHRISTUS Health is listed among the 10 largest Catholic health systems in the U.S. J.P. Morgan acted as exclusive financial advisor to CHRISTUS Health in these negotiations.

About CHRISTUS St. Patrick Health System

CHRISTUS St. Patrick Health System is a not-for-profit health system that is dedicated to a mission of extending the healing ministry of Jesus Christ. The hospital is a recognized leader in Southwest Louisiana for its comprehensive health and wellness services and its work to improve the health of the community, embracing the physical, spiritual and emotional needs of each patient.

