



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Saint Francis Moves Toward Purchase of EASTAR Health System**

**[Tulsa, OK]** — Saint Francis Health System has been in discussion with EASTAR Health System related to the acquisition of its two hospitals and affiliated entities. The signing of the definitive agreements marks the end of the due diligence period and the start of the final stage of the transaction.

“As the area’s only locally owned and operated health system, Saint Francis is deeply committed to the current and future health needs of Oklahoma. This pending acquisition is consistent with Saint Francis’ five-year strategic plan, *Vision 2020*, which identifies an increased focus on regionalization as one of the system’s key organizing principles,” said Jake Henry Jr., president and chief executive officer of Saint Francis Health System.

Tony Young, chief executive officer of EASTAR Health System, said “EASTAR has served the Muskogee community for almost ten years. We believe that by joining the Saint Francis Health System we will be able to continue our legacy of care and service for years to come.”

The proposed transaction would include the assignment of the long-term lease of EASTAR’s Main Campus and the sale of EASTAR’s East Campus to Saint Francis Health System. Also, under terms of the definitive agreements, the physician practices currently affiliated with EASTAR would be incorporated into Warren Clinic—the employed physician arm of the health system which currently employs 335 physicians and 111 advanced practice providers. Closing of the transaction is contingent upon required regulatory approvals and customary consents which the parties anticipate receiving in mid-2017.

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## **About EASTAR Health System**

Located in Muskogee, Oklahoma, EASTAR Health System a comprehensive, 320-bed, two-campus health system fully accredited by The Joint Commission. The EASTAR Main Campus (formerly Muskogee Regional Medical Center) was one of the first hospitals established in Oklahoma, and has grown to become one of the state's largest and most comprehensive facilities. In addition to its nationally accredited cancer program, the hospital is also certified as a Level III Trauma Center and Primary Stroke Center. The EASTAR East Campus (formerly Muskogee Community Hospital) opened in 2009 as the first hospital in the nation to earn LEED-Gold for New Construction. To learn more, visit [www.EASTARHealth.com](http://www.EASTARHealth.com)

## **About Saint Francis Health System**

Founded in 1960 by Natalie O. and William K. Warren, Sr., Saint Francis is a Catholic, not-for-profit health system wholly owned and operated in Tulsa, Oklahoma whose mission is to extend the presence and healing ministry of Christ to all who seek its services. The health system is anchored by Saint Francis Hospital, a 1,100-bed tertiary center, which includes a 162-bed Children's Hospital with the region's only level IV neonatal intensive care unit, a 168-bed heart hospital and Tulsa's leading trauma and emergency center. Also part of the health system is Saint Francis Hospital South, a 96-bed community hospital; Saint Francis Hospital Vinita, a 55 bed regional hospital; and Laureate Psychiatric Clinic and Hospital—a 90-bed private, psychiatric facility recognized nationally for its eating disorders program. Additionally, Saint Francis employs 335 physicians and 111 advanced practice providers through the Warren Clinic, which serves the region with over 74 locations throughout eastern Oklahoma. To further Saint Francis' commitment to integrated healthcare delivery, it also operates a home care di, which includes hospice, home health and durable medical equipment companies. In total, the organization has more than 8,500 employees, making it the largest private employer in Tulsa County. Saint Francis Health System also is a 50-percent partner with Ascension Health in Community Care Managed Healthcare Plan of Oklahoma, an organization dedicated to providing high-quality, cost-effective health insurance coverage to individuals and families in the area. Saint Francis' mission and Catholic identity guide and direct all facets of its ministry to provide for the medical, psychological and spiritual needs of the communities it proudly serves.

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