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Nevada Cancer
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Nevada Cancer Institute Partners with Saint Mary's Center for Cancer
Partnership will provide northern Nevadans and physicians with expanded cancer programs and resources

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Reno, NV – September 29, 2009 – Nevada Cancer Institute (NVCi) has partnered with Saint Mary's Center for Cancer to expand the clinical, research and education opportunities for cancer providers, patients, caregivers and families in northern Nevada.

Through the exclusive affiliation in the Reno area, Saint Mary's Center for Cancer and NVCi will offer all patients and caregivers access to community resources, through the work of a community resource liaison, regardless of where the patients are treated. The affiliation will work to expand the breadth of cancer care services and research in northern Nevada, including enabling Saint Mary's physicians to become affiliate members of NVCi. The Institute will also work with Saint Mary's to provide accredited continuing medical education for physicians, nurses and other health care professionals about the latest developments in cancer screening, treatment and survivorship.

As part of this partnership, NVCi will have an office located at Saint Mary's that is expected to open in early October.

“As northern Nevada's newest accredited center for cancer, as accredited by the Commission on Cancer of the American College of Surgeons, we are excited about our exclusive partnership with Nevada Cancer Institute, as it will allow us to collaborate and provide enhanced resources for providers, patients and caregivers,” said Mike Uboldi, president and CEO of Saint Mary's Regional Medical Center. “Having the official cancer institute of Nevada at our campus is another opportunity to expand our services and reach more patients in northern Nevada and offer quality care so that cancer patients can stay in Nevada for treatment.”

NVCi's Director and CEO, John C. Ruckdeschel, M.D., said: “Through this partnership with Saint Mary's and Nevada Cancer Institute, we can make a real impact on the lives of Nevadans through education, treatment and research. We look forward to bringing additional resources to northern Nevada, for providers, patients and caregivers,

and forging a long-term partnership with Saint Mary's that will change the face of cancer care in northern Nevada."

Under the affiliation agreement, NVCi will provide educational collaboration, including accredited continuing medical education conferences and programs, as well as monthly grand rounds, either in-person or via videoconference.

The affiliation also will enable Saint Mary's physicians to apply to become affiliate members of NVCi, participating in the Institute's quality assurance programs. NVCi will serve as a resource for second opinions and subspecialty cancer care not otherwise available in the area. A preceptorship program also will be developed, focusing on enhancement of graduate medical education through observation and shadowing of NVCi clinical professionals.

Saint Mary's and NVCi will explore potential screening collaborations, as well as Internet-based educational programs.

NVCi's office will be located at 645 N. Arlington Ave at the Saint Mary's Center for Cancer and opens in October. Those interested in learning more about NVCi, Saint Mary's Center for Cancer and their programs can call (775)770-7410.

About Nevada Cancer Institute

Nevada Cancer Institute (NVCi) is the official cancer institute for the State of Nevada. A non-profit organization, NVCi is committed to reducing the burden of cancer by pursuing the development of a comprehensive cancer research institute, as defined by the National Cancer Institute. Through the knowledge and expertise of the finest scientists, clinicians, educators and caregivers, the Institute provides hope to communities in Nevada, the southwest and beyond through research, education, early detection, prevention and high quality patient care. NVCi is striving for a future without cancer that is achieved through initiated and collaborative research in basic, clinical and population science. For more information, please visit www.nevadacancerinstitute.org or call (702) 822-LIFE.

About Saint Mary's Center for Cancer

Saint Mary's Center for Cancer is northern Nevada newest CoC-approved cancer center and is the only facility in Nevada using CyberKnife, the very latest in radiation delivery system, to treat previously untreatable tumors. The precision of CyberKnife helps minimize damage to healthy tissue more so than any other system currently available in Nevada, including TomoTherapy. Patients experience no pain with CyberKnife and are able to receive their full treatment in as little as five sessions compared to several weeks of sessions with other systems less technologically advanced. For more information about Saint Mary's Center for Cancer please call 775-770-7410.

About Saint Mary's

In 2009 Saint Mary's celebrates 101 years of delivering compassionate, high-quality, affordable health services to northern Nevada. Founded in 1908 by the Dominican Sisters

of San Rafael, Saint Mary's is a member of the Catholic Healthcare West family of hospitals and medical centers in Arizona, California, and Nevada. As a fully integrated, faith-based healthcare system with 380 licensed beds, approximately 2,300 employees, 850 affiliated physicians, and 300 volunteers, Saint Mary's provides a wide variety of inpatient, outpatient, and community services to go Well Beyond for the community we serve. For more information, please visit www.saintmarysreno.org.

About Catholic Healthcare West

Catholic Healthcare West (CHW) is the eighth largest hospital system in the nation and the largest not-for-profit hospital provider in California. Founded in 1986, the CHW network of more than 10,000 physicians and approximately 53,000 employees serves a population spanning 22 million people at 41 hospitals across California, Arizona, and Nevada. CHW is committed to delivering compassionate, high-quality, affordable health care services with special attention to the poor and underserved. In 2008, CHW provided \$967 million in charity care, community benefits, and unreimbursed patient care. For more information, please visit our website at www.chwHEALTH.org.