



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Northwoods Riders for Colon Cancer Awareness Support CHI St. Joseph's Health Hospice Care

PARK RAPIDS, MN (February 7, 2017) – Recently, the Northwoods Riders for Colon Cancer Awareness (NRCCA) made a donation designated to CHI St. Joseph's Health Hospice Care through the CHI St. Joseph's Health Foundation in memory of Chuck Burns.

The NRCCA was formed in 2012 by Chuck Burns, who passed away after a long battle with colon cancer in 2015. Chuck was inspired by a young cancer patient whom he'd read about while he was undergoing chemo treatment. This young patient started a lemonade stand to raise money to help other people with cancer. As a result, Chuck thought, "If this young person can raise money to help people with cancer, I can too." Thus, the NRCCA was born.

While on his cancer journey, Chuck became very familiar with and became a supporter of the Hospice Care program through CHI St. Joseph's Health. One of his final wishes was to give back to hospice and provide other hospice patients and their loved ones with personal items and other needs to assist in their care. All donations from the ride and fundraising event go to the "Chuck Burns Hospice Compassion Fund" to take care of immediate and personal needs of local Hospice patients.

CHI St. Joseph's Health Hospice Care provides comfort, dignity, and quality of life on the end-of-life journey. Patients and their loved ones decide what care and help best suits their needs. Hospice care is available for patients at their place of care, whether it is their home, a care center or with their loved ones.

As of January 2017, the NRCCA has donated a combined \$11,400.00 to Park Rapids and Bemidji Hospice. CHI St. Joseph's Health Hospice Care is most grateful for

this generous donation to support hospice families in need in our communities and thanks to all riders and supporters.

The Northwoods Riders for Colon Cancer Awareness (NRCCA) organizes and hosts a motorcycle ride annually. The 5th Annual Colon Cancer Awareness Motorcycle ride will be held on September 9, 2017. NRCCA welcomes both riders and non-riders and donors. To participate in the ride or to support the event, please contact Liz Stone at 218.732.0015.

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From L-R: Jill Grimes, CHI St. Joseph's Health Hospice Care Director; and NRCCA members: Sharon Weaver, Liz Stone, and Erika Randall.

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About CHI St. Joseph's Health

CHI St. Joseph's Health is a 25-bed critical access hospital serving communities in Hubbard, Becker, Cass and Wadena Counties since 1946. In recent years, CHI St. Joseph's Health's award-winning teams received several national honors including: The Joint Commission Top Performer on Key Quality Measures in surgery; Top 100 Critical Access Hospital, HealthStrong; WomenCertified's America's Best Hospitals Women's Choice Award in obstetrics; and the Studer Group Fire Starter Healthcare Organization of the Month among other national, regional and state recognitions.

About CHI

St. Joseph Hospital is part of Catholic Health Initiatives (CHI), a national nonprofit health system based in Englewood, Colorado. The faith-based system operates in 18 states and includes 103 hospitals, as well as long-term care, assisted- and residential living communities; community health services organizations; home health agencies and outpatient facilities and services. In fiscal year 2016, CHI provided more than \$1.1 billion in financial assistance and community benefit. CHI generated operating revenues of \$15.9 billion and has total assets of approximately \$22.7 billion.

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Contact: Judy Miller
Communication/Marketing Manager
CHI St. Joseph's Health
600 Pleasant Avenue
Park Rapids, MN 56470
218.616.3310