Sacred Heart Health System

Sacred Heart and Florida Blue Agree on New Contract

PENSACOLA, Fla. (June 24, 2015) – Sacred Heart Health System and Florida Blue have reached agreement on a new three-year contract that maintains Sacred Heart as a leading healthcare provider in Florida Blue insurance plans.

"We are pleased to announce we have reached agreement to renew a contract that provides Florida Blue members with continued access to our wide range of high-quality services for children and adults," said Susan Davis, president and CEO of Sacred Heart Health System. "Our hospitals in Miramar Beach, Port St. Joe and Pensacola, including our Children's Hospital, will continue to be a participating provider in the Florida Blue network."

"The Northwest Florida community is a very important market for Florida Blue, and our new contract with Sacred Heart ensures we can continue to provide the members in the area with access to high quality and affordable health care," said Kirk Fischer, vice president of Delivery System for Florida Blue.

Sacred Heart continues as an in-network provider for the following Florida Blue plans:
- BlueCare® HMO (Health Options Inc.)
- BlueChoice® (Preferred Patient Care)
- BlueOptions (Network Blue)
- BlueSelect, Advantager65
- BlueMedicare HMO
- BlueMedicare PPO and
- Traditional Indemnity plans.

About Sacred Heart Health System
Sacred Heart Health System is Northwest Florida's leading provider of high-quality health care to children and adults. The hub of the Sacred Heart system is its 566-bed Sacred Heart Hospital in Pensacola that includes the region's only Children's Hospital, a Level II Trauma Center, a Cancer Center affiliated with MD Anderson Cancer Network and a Heart & Vascular Institute. The Health System also includes Sacred Heart Hospital on the Emerald Coast, a 58-bed community hospital near Destin, Sacred Heart Hospital on the Gulf, a 19-bed hospital, in Port St. Joe, and Sacred Heart Medical Group, the area's largest regional network of primary care and specialty physicians with offices across seven coastal counties between Gulf Shores, Ala. and Apalachicola, Fla.

Sacred Heart has been recognized for 14 straight years by National Research Corporation as winner of the Consumer Choice Award as the most preferred health care system in Northwest Florida. For more information, visit www.sacred-heart.org.

Sacred Heart is a member of **Ascension** (www.ascension.org), a faith-based healthcare organization dedicated to transformation through innovation across the continuum of care. As the largest non-profit health system in the U.S. and the world's largest Catholic health system, Ascension is committed to delivering person-centered care to all with special attention to those who are poor and vulnerable. In FY2014, Ascension provided $1.8 billion in care of persons living in poverty and other community benefit programs.

About Florida Blue
Florida Blue, Florida's Blue Cross and Blue Shield company, is a leader in Florida's health care industry. Driven by its mission to help people and communities achieve better health, Florida Blue has more than 4 million health care members across the state. An additional 15.5 million people in 16 states are served through its affiliated companies. Florida Blue is a subsidiary of GuideWell Mutual Holding Company, a not-for-profit, policyholder-owned, tax-paying mutual company. Headquartered in Jacksonville, Fla., Florida Blue is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association, an association of independent Blue Cross and Blue Shield companies. For more information, visit www.floridablue.com.

###