



PHYSICIANS HOSPITAL SYSTEM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**PHYSICIANS HOSPITAL SYSTEM HOSTS FIRST ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING**

***The Indiana Physician Hospital Association Board to Meet
at RiverCrest Specialty Hospital***

Mishawaka, IN – Jan. 11, 2010 -- Physicians Hospital System (PHS), a network of physician-owned healthcare facilities providing a continuum of care to patients in northern Indiana and southern Michigan, announced today that it will host the first meeting of the board of directors of the Indiana Physician Hospital Association (IN PHA) on January 26, 2010.

Physicians Hospital System played an integral role in the founding of the IN PHA as a charter member of the association. Affiliated with the Physician Hospitals of America (PHA), IN PHA advocates for the improved access to healthcare and for greater control of superior patient care by physicians and their patients. IN PHA also represents the interests of physician-owned hospitals in the state and educates the public and policy makers about the benefits of physician-ownership.

15 physician-owned hospitals across Indiana deliver high quality healthcare that often results in fewer complications, fewer infections and higher patient satisfaction. According to the 2008-2009 Economic Impact Analysis by PHA, Indiana's physician hospitals employ more than 4,000 nurses and staff, and 2,610 physicians. The state's physician-owned hospitals have a payroll totaling \$180.4 million and pays \$50 million in taxes in addition to treating Medicare and Medicaid patients and providing charity care. Two other physician-owned hospitals are in development in Indiana, promising another 200 jobs. PHS Director of Marketing and Public Policy, Jennifer Davis, was elected to the IN PHA board of directors as secretary.

The first board meeting of the newly-formed state association will be at RiverCrest Specialty Hospital in Mishawaka. The board will focus on seating the newly elected officers, formally accepting the association's bylaws, finalizing membership guidelines, setting dues and planning for the first membership meeting.

The elected officers of the Indiana Physician Hospital Association are:

- President: Jane Keller, RN; Chief Executive Officer, the Indiana Orthopaedic Hospital, Indianapolis
- Vice President: Julie Fleck, Chief Operating Officer, Parkview Hospital, Fort Wayne
- Secretary: Jennifer Davis, Director of Marketing and Public Policy, Physicians Hospital System, Mishawaka
- Treasurer: Paul Skowron, Chief Executive Officer, the Surgical Hospital of Munster, Munster

About Physicians Hospital System--

Physicians Hospital System (PHS) is a network of physician-owned facilities providing a continuum of care to patients in north central Indiana and southern Michigan. Made up of physician practices and clinics, PHS features Doctors Hospital and Neuromuscular Center in Bremen, Indiana; RiverCrest Specialty Hospital and Unity Medical and Surgical Hospital, both in Mishawaka, Indiana. PHS facilities provide general, orthopedic and spine surgery, neuromuscular treatment and long-term acute care. To learn more, visit our web site: <http://www.physicianshospitalsystem.com>.