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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Memorial Health and Coastal Community Health to Create New Healthcare Center for Underserved in Savannah

Center will expand access to care for underserved population in our region

Savannah, GA (February 12, 2024) – Memorial Health and Coastal Community Health will partner to create a new healthcare center for the underserved population in our community. The new federally qualified health center (FQHC) will be located at 1107 East 66th Street, which currently houses the Memorial Health’s Graduate Medical Education (GME) Continuity Clinic.

“We are excited to work together with Coastal Community Health to expand access to high-quality healthcare in our community,” said Brad Talbert, Memorial Health chief executive Officer. “At Memorial Health, we invest in our community and work with purpose driven partners to improve more lives in more ways.”

Coastal Community Health was founded in Brunswick, GA in 2014 and currently operates in six counties in southeast Georgia. The new Savannah FQHC will provide comprehensive healthcare services for underserved (uninsured or underinsured) patients including primary care, preventive health services, dental, behavioral health, and a 340-B discount pharmacy.

“Our mission is to increase access to quality affordable healthcare and we believe this partnership lights a path of hope for many in need of the comprehensive care offered by an

FQHC,” said Kavanaugh Chandler, MD, MBA, chief executive officer for Coastal Community Health.

Memorial Health’s family medicine education program will see patients at the new FQHC. Faculty physicians and more than 20 family medicine resident physicians will practice and work alongside the Coastal Community Health team to care for patients at the new location.

“This partnership will give our family medicine resident physicians a great opportunity to gain valuable experience caring for the underserved patients in our community. It’s a win-win for our patients, graduate medical education program and our community,” said Joshua Ferrell, MD, program director for Memorial Health’s family medicine residency.

“By increasing access to primary and preventive health care, we hope to reduce some of the unnecessary utilization of local emergency rooms,” said Talbert. “This partnership also demonstrates our commitment to providing charity care for our community.” Since joining HCA Healthcare in 2018, Memorial Health has provided more than \$465 million in charity care for the underserved in our communities.”

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Memorial Health has provided quality healthcare services since 1955, giving patients access to highly trained physicians and advanced technology. Our 711-bed hospital is one of the region’s leading acute care facilities, serving 35 counties in southeast Georgia and southern South Carolina. Located in Savannah, Georgia, we are a regional referral center for heart care, cancer care, trauma care, children’s care, high-risk pregnancies and high-risk newborn care. Our hospital includes the region’s only Level 1 trauma center, the Memorial Health Dwaine & Cynthia Willett Children’s Hospital of Savannah, a primary and specialty care physician network and Consult-A-Nurse®, our 24-hour call center. We also have a major medical education program that trains physicians in numerous specialties and our campus is home to the Savannah Campus of Mercer University School of Medicine.