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# AMERICAN HEALTH PLANS TO PARTNER WITH LEADING NURSING HOME ORGANIZATIONS AND HIGHMARK HEALTH FOR EXPANSION INTO PENNSYLVANIA MARKET

Pennsylvania becomes 13th state to benefit from unique model of care

**Franklin, Tenn., August 5, 2024** – <u>American Health Plans</u>, a division of American Health Partners, has announced a joint venture with Pennsylvania provider organizations <u>Lake Erie</u> <u>College of Osteopathic Medicine (LECOM)</u>, <u>HCF Management Inc.</u>, <u>CHR Consulting Services</u>, <u>Inc.</u>, along with <u>Highmark Health</u>, to establish American Health Advantage of Pennsylvania, an Institutional Special Needs Plan (ISNP) providing specialty Medicare Advantage coverage to the long-term care population in Pennsylvania. American Health Advantage of Pennsylvania will begin offering the unique product to nursing home residents in twelve Pennsylvania counties.

Highmark Health, a Pittsburgh, PA-based enterprise, is the parent company of Highmark Inc., Allegheny Health Network, enGen, and Helion. Highmark Inc. and its subsidiaries and affiliates provide health insurance to 6.9 million members in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Delaware, and New York, as well as dental insurance, and related health products through a national network of diversified businesses.

"The ISNP adds institutional care to our portfolio of services and allows us to better address the wellbeing of highly vulnerable members, those living in nursing homes," said Stephanie Madia-Mobley, senior vice president, Strategy Growth and Business Development, Highmark Health. "Long-term nursing home residents have very specific health care needs. American Health Advantage of Pennsylvania, and its clinical arm TruHealth of Pennsylvania, will provide these individuals with a proven model of care that's uniquely designed for nursing home residents. We're pleased to offer this type of specialized care."

The collaboration will allow the provider organizations – LECOM, HCF, and CHR – to deliver the elevated clinical program of the ISNP to their long-term care communities serving more than 3,000 residents in Pennsylvania.

"The partnership with these great provider organizations and Highmark Health will have a positive impact on the health care and quality of life for long-term care residents throughout Pennsylvania," said Michael Bailey, President and Chief Executive Officer, American Health

Partners. "This joint venture partnership is a testament to the leadership of these organizations and their commitment to deliver high quality, proactive health care to all Pennsylvanians."

ISNPs are specialty Medicare Advantage plans that are designed for beneficiaries who reside in skilled nursing facilities or assisted living facilities and are eligible to receive Medicare and Medicaid coverage. ISNP plans provide members with supplemental benefits and a specialized model of care appropriate for those individuals who are likely to be long-term care residents for the rest of their lives.

Members of American Health Advantage of Pennsylvania will benefit from a proactive, coordinated model of care supported by a team of nurse practitioners or physician assistants from TruHealth of Pennsylvania. Members also receive support from a dedicated American Health Plans Member Advocate, who coordinates care and helps maximize plan benefits for members.

James Y. Lin, D.O., President of LECOM Institute for Successful Living, spoke of the partnership with American Health Plans and Highmark Health saying, "the additional clinical support our residents will receive by being a partner in American Health Advantage of Pennsylvania will be impactful. The model of care aligns perfectly with the goals of LECOM's Institute for Successful Living."

With the addition of Pennsylvania, American Health Plans will operate in 13 states. Based in Franklin, Tennessee, American Health Plans operates the largest provider-owned ISNP platform in the nation. The unique ISNP model of care improves clinical outcomes by bolstering medical services at the bedside while also reducing unnecessary spending. "Over the past seven years, we've seen the ISNP deliver the benefits of improved service delivery and lower costs to the most vulnerable patients nationwide," said Hank Watson, Chief Development Officer, American Health Partners. "Our partners Highmark Health, LECOM, HCF, and CHR will help us bring these benefits to the long-term care residents throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania."

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### **About American Health Plans**

American Health Plans, a division of Franklin, Tennessee-based American Health Partners is a leader in the provider-owned Medicare Advantage industry. American Health Plans equips primary care and senior living providers with a business model that improves financial performance by improving clinical outcomes for our patients and members. This division currently has co-ownership and partnership agreements with providers in Pennsylvania, Georgia, Florida, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, Utah, Texas, Tennessee, Idaho, and Indiana. For more information, visit AmHealthPlans.com or call (800) 766-9404.

### **About Highmark Health**

Highmark Health, a Pittsburgh, PA-based enterprise that employs more than 44,000 people who serve millions of Americans across the country, is the parent company of Highmark Inc., Allegheny Health Network, enGen, and Helion. Highmark Inc. and its subsidiaries and affiliates provide health insurance to 6.9 million members in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Delaware, and New York, as well as dental insurance, and related health products through a national network of diversified businesses. Allegheny Health Network is an integrated delivery network in western Pennsylvania comprised of 14 hospitals, more than 2,600 affiliated physicians,

ambulatory surgery centers, an employed physician organization, home and community-based health services, a research institute, a group purchasing organization, and health and wellness pavilions. enGen is focused on meeting the information technology platform and other business needs of the Highmark Health enterprise as well as unaffiliated health insurance plans by providing proven business processes, expert knowledge, and integrated cloud-based platforms. Helion works with payers to cultivate high-performing networks while empowering providers to operate at their best. To learn more, visit www.highmarkhealth.org.

#### About LECOM

The Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine (LECOM) is the nation's largest medical college and is the only Academic Health Center in the osteopathic profession. Physicians and administrators at the Millcreek Community Hospital saw the growing demand for more physicians and opened LECOM in 1992. With the college and the hospital as the core of a highly innovative medical education system based in Erie, Pa., LECOM has strived to add to the quality of life of our neighbors by bringing total health care to the community. The College brought a new concept in medical fitness and wellness to Erie, built a network of physician offices, and is the core of the nation's only osteopathic academic health center, LECOM Health, a highly innovative, multifaceted health care and education system. LECOM offers innovative and affordable education in osteopathic medicine, pharmacy, and dental medicine. From campuses in Erie and Greensburg, Pa, Bradenton, Fla., and Elmira, NY, LECOM provides student-centered pathways to prepare the next generation of health care professionals

#### About HCF Management Inc.

HCF Management. Inc. provides skilled nursing, assisted living, independent living, home care, hospice, and therapy services in the states of Ohio and Pennsylvania. HCF Management, Inc. is a family owned and operated company that has been in business for the past 56 years. We have been proud to serve the post-acute care needs of patients in all the communities we serve. We strive to provide the best possible care and services to our patients through our WECARE values.

## About CHR Consulting Services Inc.

CHR Consulting Services, Inc., offers an array of consulting and support services and has been serving customers for 35+ years. Our consultants are skilled in providing operational, clinical and financial consulting to senior care and home-and-community-based organizations. We utilize the resources of our consulting and financial services to provide customer-focused services, such as clinical reimbursement advisory services, directed in-services, mock surveys, clinical advisory services, strategic planning, community outreach, human resources support, information technology services and financial services (including payroll, accounting, accounts payable and third-party billing). CHR brings 35+ years of experience, expertise and resources to support senior care and home-and-community-based organizations' business performance.

\*American Health Plans is a division of American Health Companies, LLC d/b/a American Health Partners. The American Health Plans name is commonly used in the health plan marketplace to reference the health maintenance organizations which American Health Partners, through certain affiliates, owns and manages.