



NEWS RELEASE

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Russellville Hospital and Huntsville Hospital Health System Enter Strategic Affiliation

(Russellville, AL, November 15, 2019) – Russellville Hospital (RH), a non-profit corporation, entered into a strategic affiliation agreement with Huntsville Hospital Health System to become a part of a larger affiliated health care system that will allow for more efficient delivery of healthcare services to residents of Northwest Alabama.

Through this affiliation with Huntsville Hospital Health System (HHHS), Russellville Hospital will benefit from shared services, purchasing cooperatives for cost savings, physician services like specialist rotation and recruitment support, as well as assistance with other services.

“The agreement is not a purchase nor an acquisition but rather an initiative to increase efficiency in the delivery of medical services to residents of Franklin County and surrounding counties,” said David Spillers, CEO of Huntsville Hospital Health System.

Russellville Hospital is managed by Java Medical Group, and Bappa Mukherji, Chief Executive Officer, cites poor reimbursement rates and an ever-changing health care system as reasons for the agreement. “Financially, Russellville Hospital will be able to save money through economies of scale and collaboration to be better prepared for healthcare reform down the road. All of this translates into better care with more options for our patients, at a reduced cost to the hospital,” said Mukherji.

“The local board felt it was better to enter a relationship with a strong partner on a proactive basis,” stated Christine Stewart, Russellville Hospital CEO. Huntsville Hospital and Russellville Hospital have had a developing relationship since 2015. The affiliation will strengthen ties to meet the increasing challenges to health care and more specifically challenges to small rural hospitals. The affiliation provides many benefits to our hospital and patients. These include access to HHHS services such as linen, purchasing agreements, physician recruitment, specialty physician services, and quality initiatives expertise.

“We welcome Russellville Hospital as an affiliate of Huntsville Hospital Health System, and we look forward to working more closely with the RH team in helping serve the patients of Franklin County and northwest Alabama,” said Philip W. Bentley Jr., Chairman of the Health Care Authority of the City of Huntsville.

About Russellville Hospital

Russellville Hospital is a 100-bed acute care facility serving northwest Alabama. The hospital is fully accredited by The Joint Commission. Among its many services, the hospital provides a 24-hour Emergency Room, Intensive Care Unit/Cardiac Care Unit, Respiratory Therapy, Inpatient and Outpatient Diagnostic Treatment Services, Rehabilitation Services, Cardiac Catheterization, Wound Care Services, Ambulatory Surgery, Laboratory, and Home Health.