



**Metro Physicians**  
Wheaton Franciscan Medical Group

For Immediate Release

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**New large primary care physician group  
set to become part of Wheaton Franciscan Medical Group**  
Metro Physicians becomes major provider on Milwaukee's South Side

August 19, 2008. Milwaukee – Former Commonwealth Medical Group physicians and other independent physicians are forming a new medical group to be called *Metro Physicians*, which will be a subsidiary of Wheaton Franciscan Medical Group. *Metro Physicians* is comprised of well-established primary care physicians primarily serving Milwaukee's south side and neighboring communities. The group will officially join Wheaton in early September.

"This relationship grows our medical group's primary care physician base with well respected physicians, which enhances our ability to provide high quality care to patients," said Loren Meyer, MD, President and CEO, Wheaton Franciscan Medical Group.

"Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare is a great fit for us because of its broad scope of services, commitment to serving patients, and respect for our need to maintain a level of independence in the way we practice medicine," said Mark Meier, current President of Commonwealth Medical Group. "Many of our physicians have already worked closely with Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare over the years, and we know it's the best choice for our patients."

Approximately 30 independent physician practices all established in the greater Milwaukee area will join under *Metro Physicians*, growing Wheaton Franciscan Medical Group's physician base to more than 320. In addition, Wheaton is acquiring a number of ancillary services from Commonwealth, including full imaging, laboratory, physical therapy and diagnostic facilities, whose primary location is 2500 W. Layton Ave.

"The physicians affiliated with *Metro Physicians* are individuals we've had long-term relationships with - some for up to 30 years," said John Oliverio, President and CEO of Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare. "It makes sense to further solidify our relationship by bringing *Metro Physicians* on board as a part of the Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare family."

*Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare (WFH) is a Catholic, not-for-profit organization with more than 100 health and shelter organizations in Wisconsin, Iowa, Colorado, and Illinois. Started by the Wheaton Franciscan Sisters more than 125 years ago and formally incorporated in 1983, WFH has corporate services offices in Wheaton, Illinois and Glendale, Wisconsin. In Southeast Wisconsin, WFH is co-sponsored by the Wheaton Franciscan and Felician Sisters and has nearly 12,000 associates, making it the second largest private employer in the area. Hospitals include All Saints in Racine, St. Joseph and*

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*St. Francis in Milwaukee, Elmbrook Memorial in Brookfield, The Wisconsin Heart Hospital in Wauwatosa, and a new site in Franklin. The region also includes Wheaton Franciscan Medical Group, a network of outpatient centers, four long-term care facilities, Home Health, and Hospice.*

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