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**Commonwealth Health Foundation Announces
Capital Campaign for Construction of Hospitality House**

Hospitality House will provide a home away from home for families and caregivers of seriously ill patients at The Medical Center and Commonwealth Regional Specialty Hospital

Bowling Green, Ky. (January 13, 2010) – Commonwealth Health Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Commonwealth Health Corporation (CHC), announced the *Extending Home* capital campaign today for construction of a Hospitality House. Funds raised through the *Extending Home* campaign will help build, furnish and staff the 13,564 square foot “home away from home” to be situated on The Medical Center campus at the corner of High and Fifth streets. The 12 private guestroom, private bath facility will serve the family members and caregivers of seriously ill patients receiving treatment at The Medical Center and Commonwealth Regional Specialty Hospital.

“The Foundation has worked diligently for the advancement of CHC’s not-for-profit healthcare initiatives in the area for the past nine years,” said Charles M. Moore, Jr., Chairman of the Commonwealth Health Foundation Board of Directors. “The Hospitality House has been a dream of the Foundation and CHC for quite some time, and the success of the capital campaign will depend on the commitment of our community and the friends of the Foundation, The Medical Center and Commonwealth Regional Specialty Hospital.”

The need for a Hospitality House has greatly increased as patients are traveling from all across the region to receive care at The Medical Center for various services including cardiac, cancer, orthopaedic and neonatology services.

“Nearly half of our patients reside outside of Warren County,” said Connie Smith, Chief Operating Officer of CHC and Chief Executive Officer of The Medical Center. “On average, those patients spend nearly five days in the hospital. And, while we try to make family members and caregivers as comfortable as possible, there’s nothing quite like having the comforts of home in such close proximity.”

In 2007 and 2008, an average of 8,600 patients from outside Warren County stayed at The Medical Center. Additionally, Commonwealth Regional Specialty Hospital – a long term acute care hospital located within The Medical Center – treats patients who require specialized, continuing medical care for chronic or complex medical conditions. The average length of stay for these patients is 25 days or more.

In addition to the 12 private guestrooms and baths, the Hospitality House will feature a large kitchen and dining room to accommodate multiple families, a prayer room, a community room with comfortable furnishings, and a business center with computers and internet access. The Hospitality House will also be available for patients receiving outpatient radiation therapy. It is not uncommon for some of these cancer patients to drive 50 miles one way for treatment. There will not be a charge to stay at the Hospitality House, however, guests who are able to make a donation for each night they stay will be encouraged to do so.

Mike Murphy of Scott, Murphy and Daniel serves as Chairman of the capital campaign committee, and Jerry Baker of Airgas serves as Honorary Chairman.

“Bowling Green is a hub for healthcare, and the Hospitality House will be a welcomed addition to our community,” said Mike Murphy. “In the midst of a medical emergency or lengthy hospitalization, families need the assurance that they will have a warm, safe and inviting place to stay during those trying times. The need for the Hospitality House is clear, and we can’t wait to see it come to fruition.”

To date, the Foundation has secured \$1.7 million in pledges and donations for the *Extending Home* capital campaign. An estimated \$2 million is needed to construct and furnish the Hospitality House. An additional \$1 million is needed for establishment of an endowment to ensure ongoing operation. To learn more about the Hospitality House and how you can support the *Extending Home Capital Campaign*, contact Commonwealth Health Foundation at (270) 796-5543 or visit www.hospitalityhousebg.org.

About Commonwealth Health Foundation

Commonwealth Health Foundation is a 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit organization established as the philanthropic arm of Commonwealth Health Corporation (CHC). Commonwealth Health Foundation helps build relationships and partnerships across Southcentral Kentucky that will inspire charitable giving by individuals, foundations, corporations and organizations. These gifts help support the mission of CHC to care for people and improve the quality of life in the communities it serves. For more information about the Foundation, visit www.CommonwealthHealthFoundation.org or call (270)796-5543.

About Commonwealth Health Corporation

Commonwealth Health Corporation is the parent company of The Medical Center at Bowling Green, Franklin, and Scottsville, Commonwealth Regional Specialty Hospital and various healthcare related entities throughout South Central Kentucky. With a mission to care for people and improve the quality of life in the communities it serves, CHC and its entities contributed \$56.9 million in total benefits to the community in fiscal year 2009 including millions through charity care for the uninsured and shortfalls in governmental reimbursements (Medicare and Medicaid). To learn more about CHC, visit www.chc.net.

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