

For Immediate Release

Update for Provision of Healthcare Services in Ripley County

Doniphan, MO. (September 25, 2018) - Ripley County Memorial Hospital Board and presiding Ripley County Commissioner have unanimously voted to conclude negotiations with Tornare, LLC for assuming hospital operations. Both entities have approved the reinstatement of Missouri Highlands Health Center's (MHHC) proposal to take over clinic operations.

SoutheastHEALTH, in full collaboration with Ripley County Memorial Hospital Board, Ripley County Commissioners and the State of Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, continues to explore all possibilities to secure a viable solution for transitioning hospital operations. Southeast will cease hospital operations in Doniphan effective October 15. Subject to state approval, at that time, and based on successful negotiations, we will suspend the current provider operating license to allow Ripley County Memorial Hospital Board, under temporary suspension status, to explore re-opening under a limited status hospital model consistent with state regulations.

MHHC, a federally qualified health center, proposed the following provision of health services with an expedited transition timeline to come. The future scope of services based on feasibility study findings may include converting the existing Emergency Department to an Urgent Care/Acute Care Clinic providing care seven days a week with hours of operation from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; opening a full-time dental clinic; and integration of behavioral health and substance use disorder treatment to the active clinic operations.

Southeast is working with the Missouri State Department of Health Services divisions to keep the rural health clinic, located at 109 LeRoux Drive, open in effort to ease the transition for Missouri Highlands to assume an active clinic operation with an approximate transition date of December 1. More details and a final transition timeline will be forthcoming as it becomes available.

The SoutheastHEALTH administrative team extends the deepest gratitude and appreciation to the staff in caring for the residents of Ripley County and their patience through the due diligence process. Their efforts fully demonstrate the character and care they have for the Ripley community.

About SoutheastHEALTH

At SoutheastHEALTH, the region's premier healthcare system in Southeast Missouri, our patients receive excellent care of the highest clinical quality, close to home. Within our network are more than 50 care locations in 13 communities, including hospitals, primary and specialty care clinics representing over 30 clinical specialties and extending care for patients in a four-state area. For more information, visit SEhealth.org.