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Pennock Hospital and Priority Health Reach Three-Year Agreement

(Hastings, Mich. —January 29, 2003) – Pennock Hospital (Hastings, MI) and Priority Health (Grand Rapids, Mich.) have reached a three-year agreement that allows Priority Health members to access care at Pennock Hospital. This agreement concludes several months of negotiations and impacts several thousand Priority Health subscribers in Barry County.

“Without a doubt, this has been a challenging time for all involved,” noted Daniel C. Hamilton, CEO of Pennock Health Services. “This partnership meets our objective of continuing to provide the high quality health care that our community has come to expect from Pennock Hospital.”

“This is welcomed news for the Priority Health members who want to access care at Pennock Hospital,” noted Kimberly K. Horn, President and CEO at Priority Health.

“Pennock Hospital has been an important part of our network for over a decade and we’re pleased they will continue to be in the future. This is also good news for businesses who partner with us to provide coverage to their employees. This agreement is consistent with our mission to provide families access to excellent and affordable health care.”

Terms of the agreement were not disclosed. Priority Health is a locally owned, non-profit managed care organization that provides benefits to nearly 400,000 people in western and northern Michigan. Their network of providers includes 28 hospitals and over 3,000 physicians.