



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BEND MEMORIAL CLINIC AND TOUCHMARK TO PROVIDE HEALTHCARE SERVICES FOR MEDICARE PATIENTS

(BEND, Ore.) — Bend Memorial Clinic and Touchmark at Mt. Bachelor Village are joining together to provide a community healthcare clinic to serve Medicare patients throughout Central Oregon. The clinic will be located in the new Cliff Lodge building within Touchmark at Mt. Bachelor Village on the west side of Bend. A primary care clinic with a physician and a nurse practitioner will open the service. The new clinic is projected to open September 2006.

The clinic will initially accept all traditional Medicare and Medicare Advantage HMO health plans offered by ClearChoice and ODS Health Plans, serving people who do not currently have a primary care physician. Within six months, the clinic may accept Medicare members who may already have a primary care physician (PCP) but desire a more convenient or alternative option to their existing PCP. The clinic is expected to serve approximately 1,200 new patients.

Touchmark Home Services, which is independent of the Bend Memorial Clinic, also will be housed in the same building, providing home health, in-home care and outpatient physical rehabilitation services.

“By working together, Bend Memorial Clinic and Touchmark can help meet the critical demand for medical care among Medicare community members,” says Touchmark Executive Director Tom Biel. “This collaboration will help reach more patients by reducing some of the costs associated with providing high-quality primary care.”

“The reimbursement provided by Medicare for services is unfortunately too low to cover the full cost of providing primary healthcare,” said Marvin J. Lein, CEO of Bend Memorial Clinic. “But this exciting new partnership gives us the opportunity to reach out to our senior community friends and neighbors and helps ensure excellent healthcare is available

to those who often need it the most. We could not be more pleased with Touchmark's shared vision," added Mr. Lein.

Bend Memorial Clinic includes over 85 physicians representing 17 branches of medicine and 30 service specialties. It is the largest multispecialty group east of the Cascades and functions as a comprehensive referral center for physicians and communities throughout the state. The Clinic has provided primary and specialty care since 1946.

Touchmark, headquartered in Oregon, is now in its 25th year. Touchmark is a leader in planning, building and operating active-adult communities in eight states and Alberta, Canada. Touchmark at Mt. Bachelor Village includes the phase one River Lodge and single-family homes, now complete. Work is under way on phase two, which will include the Cliff Lodge and a Terrace Lodge with numerous amenities and services. The resort-style retirement community received a Platinum Award from the National Association of Home Builders acknowledging the creative design of the River Lodge.

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