



For Immediate Release

Contact: Joshua Morby
Mobile: 920.968.4197
Email: media@thenewnorth.com

New North Health Care Organizations Honored **Mercy Medical and St. Elizabeth receive national recognition**

NEW NORTH, October 23, 2007 – Good schools, recreational opportunities, and top notch available and affordable health care services are key factors in a region's ability to attract and retain quality workers and potential employers.

The New North is fortunate to have all three. As reported in the Oshkosh Northwestern, Mercy Medical Center in Oshkosh and St. Elizabeth Hospital in Appleton received the 2007 Premier/CareScience Select Practice National Quality Award for superior patient outcomes in both quality and efficiency.

The Affinity Health System hospitals are two of 49 nationally — the top 1 percent of acute inpatient facilities — to be recognized with the Select Practice Award by the Premier healthcare alliance.

Mercy Medical Center is a 157-bed facility with a 15-bed sub acute unit that offers 24-hour emergency/trauma care, specialized cancer, orthopedic, neurosurgery, women's and family-focused care, and also in-and-out patient rehabilitation and behavioral health services. Mercy Medical Center has 800 employees. It was established in 1891 by the Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother and opened at its current facility on Oakwood Road on the west side of Oshkosh in 2000.

St. Elizabeth Hospital provides general care, surgical services, and numerous medical specialties including cardiology, oncology, pediatrics, emergency, intensive care, and obstetrics. The facility has 420 skilled staff members and 352 licensed patient beds.

New North, Inc. is a regional collaboration effort focused on promoting regional cooperation and economic development in an 18-county region in Northeast Wisconsin. The 18 counties included in the New North are Outagamie, Winnebago, Calumet, Waupaca, Brown, Shawano, Oconto, Marinette, Door, Kewaunee, Sheboygan, Manitowoc, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Marquette, Florence, Menominee, and Waushara. To find out more information about New North, Inc., please visit our website at www.thenewnorth.com.

-###-