



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS PARTNER WITH MARYLAND COLLABORATIVE CARE TRANSFORMATION ORGANIZATION TO DELIVER ADVANCED PRIMARY CARE**

*Participants in Innovative State/Federal Program to Coordinate Care, Improve Health Outcomes*

**TAMPA, Fla., and ROCKVILLE, Md. (Mar. 7, 2019)** – Collaborative Health Systems, a WellCare Health Plans, Inc. (NYSE: WCG) company, announced that 14 primary care practices accepted into the Maryland Primary Care Program have contracted with the Maryland Collaborative Care Transformation Organization, Inc. for care coordination and practice transformation services. These 14 practices serve over 4,600 Medicare Fee-For-Service beneficiaries.

The Maryland Collaborative Care Transformation Organization, founded by Collaborative Health Systems, was selected last fall to be one of 25 Care Transformation Organizations (CTOs) in the first performance year of the program that started on Jan. 1, 2019. CTOs deploy an interdisciplinary care management team to furnish care coordination to Maryland Medicare beneficiaries attributed to participant practices, and to assist Maryland Primary Care Program (MDPCP) participant practices in achieving the transformation of primary care in the state of Maryland.

“Our independent primary care practices are pleased to join with the Maryland Collaborative Care Transformation Organization in transforming care in Maryland,” said Vinu Ganti, M.D., medical director. “Medicare beneficiaries in MDPCP participant practices can expect many improvements in the healthcare experience and health outcomes through coordination of care with specialists and other healthcare providers in their community, ensuring that beneficiaries receive the right care at the right time. We chose Collaborative Health Systems for their proven expertise and support in successfully managing Medicare Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs) in Maryland and throughout the country since 2012.”

“Primary care practices in Maryland can thrive and retain their independence while embracing care transformation that rewards efficiency, value, and better health outcomes,” said Anthony Valdés, president of Collaborative Health Systems. “Collaborative Health Systems looks forward to assisting our provider partners in this innovative Maryland Model in delivering advanced primary care while deepening beneficiary relationships, advancing care in the community, and lowering costs.”

The Maryland Primary Care Program (MDPCP) is an initiative of the Maryland Total Cost of Care All-Payer model through the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Maryland Department of Health (MDH). The MDPCP supports the overall health care transformation process and allows primary care providers to play an increased role in prevention, management

of chronic disease, and preventing unnecessary hospital utilization. It is a voluntary program open to all qualifying Maryland primary care providers that provides funding and support for the delivery of advanced primary care throughout the state.

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#### **About the Maryland Collaborative Care Transformation Organization, Inc.**

The Maryland Collaborative Care Transformation Organization, Inc. is an approved Care Transformation Organization participating in the Maryland Primary Care Program. We deploy an interdisciplinary Care Management Team that furnishes an array of care coordination and practice transformation services to Maryland Medicare beneficiaries attributed to MDPCP participants. For more information, visit [www.mdccctransformation.com](http://www.mdccctransformation.com).

#### **About Collaborative Health Systems**

Collaborative Health Systems (CHS), a WellCare Company, is a management services organization that partners with primary care physicians as they move to value-based payment systems. Its core belief is that primary care physicians are in the best position to influence the quality and cost of healthcare. CHS provides comprehensive support for its physician partners by providing management services, risk contracting, and population health capabilities, including actionable data and other tools to deliver care coordination and closure of gaps in care. CHS provides additional services to secure and deliver favorable value-based contracts with commercial and other health plans.

As of February 2019, CHS manages two Next Generation ACOs, ten MSSP ACOs, and the Maryland Collaborative Care Transformation Organization, covering over 153,000 Medicare beneficiaries. In addition, CHS partners with physician groups that have come together to form Independent Physician Associations (IPAs). For more information, visit [www.CollaborativeHealthSystems.com](http://www.CollaborativeHealthSystems.com).

#### **About WellCare Health Plans**

Headquartered in Tampa, Fla., WellCare Health Plans, Inc. (NYSE: WCG) focuses primarily on providing government-sponsored managed care services to families, children, seniors and individuals with complex medical needs primarily through Medicaid, Medicare Advantage and Medicare Prescription Drug Plans, as well as individuals in the Health Insurance Marketplace. WellCare serves approximately 5.5 million members nationwide as of December 31, 2018. For more information about WellCare, please visit the company's website at [www.wellcare.com](http://www.wellcare.com).

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