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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **South County Health and Saint Elizabeth Community collaborate on private duty home care**

**WAKEFIELD, R.I. –Friday, July 15, 2016** – After careful consideration, South County Health has decided to transition its private duty home care agency, South County Quality Care, to another provider in the community, Cathleen Naughton Associates (CNA), a member of Saint Elizabeth Community.

“In recent years, despite great leadership and effort, we have found it difficult to recruit and retain adequate numbers of staff to sustain this service in an economical manner,” said Lou Giancola, president & CEO, South County Health. “As a result, we have sought and consummated a relationship with a well-respected local provider, Cathleen Naughton Associates, to provide this service going forward, which we believe will improve access to care for the community.”

For two decades, South County Quality Care provided private duty nursing, which includes certified nursing assistants helping patients with activities of daily living including personal care and assistance at meal times. The clients are generally older and the service can range from a few hours a day to 24-hour support.

Cathleen Naughton Associates is accredited by the Joint Commission and has served the South County community for many years. CNA has agreed to offer employment to many of the staff of South County Quality Care to ensure continuity of care for its current clients. “The consolidation of people under one agency will enhance the availability of service to the community,” noted Steven J. Horowitz, president & CEO, Saint Elizabeth Community.

South County Health will continue to provide certified home healthcare—home visits by registered nurses, physical and occupational therapists and other disciplines—through South County Home Health. The services of South County Home Health are recognized and reimbursed by Medicare and private insurers.

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**SOUTH COUNTY HEALTH** is the preeminent resource for health in Washington County, RI, and beyond. Supporting community-based initiatives that improve health, it encompasses four healthcare entities: South County Hospital, South County Home Health, South County Medical Group, and South County Surgical

Supply. Together, they provide a continuum of care and comprehensive range of advanced inpatient, outpatient and home health services. [www.southcountyhealth.org](http://www.southcountyhealth.org)

**SAINT ELIZABETH COMMUNITY** is a non-profit, non-sectarian, charitable organization that provides a full spectrum of quality care to older adults and people with physical disabilities. Founded in Providence in 1882, the community now has twelve Rhode Island locations offering apartments for independent seniors, adult day centers, affordable assisted living, skilled nursing and rehab centers and home care.

[www.stelizabethcommunity.org](http://www.stelizabethcommunity.org)