

Kimberly A. Graf

Vice President of Public Relations
& Corporate Communications
315.415.0069/315.477.9305
kgraf@477home.org

For immediate release:

February 13, 2020

Nascentia Health Impacted by Medicaid Deficit Shortfall of Over \$6 Billion

Syracuse, New York – Nascentia Health, a local leader in healthcare services has announced that the upcoming changes being implemented by the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) to “carve out” nursing home members from Managed Long-Term Care Plans is impacting their system.

Effective March 1, 2020, 65% of their membership will be disenrolling from Nascentia Health Options, their Managed Long-Term Care Plan that operates in 48 counties throughout Upstate New York. The remaining 35% of their membership residing in the counties they serve will stay in the plan. The significant loss in their membership equates to a loss of over \$400 million in revenue this year for Nascentia Health. This is in addition to millions of dollars that the NYSDOH has cut from their funding to fix the state Medicaid deficit shortfall of over \$6 billion. Nascentia Health received notification of this change on January 9, 2020.

To keep the system viable and continue to efficiently continue caring for those they serve, Nascentia Health has been forced to restructure their organization and eliminate [insert number here – media will ask] positions. The gravity of the situation was not taken lightly nor were the decisions that had to be made as a result. President and CEO Kate Rolf stated in a memo notifying Nascentia Health staff that “Our hearts are with those from our Nascentia family that we had to let go today....We will focus on growing our census for our community-based members in our MLTC as well as the census in our Medicare plans, providing opportunities to bring our teammates back.”

Those employees whose positions were eliminated are being provided with access to an employment agency to assist with job placement.

“After vigorous analysis, the unfortunate reality is there is no alternative but to re-structure our organization. We are not alone in feeling the impact of New York State’s “carve out” of nursing home members from the Managed Long-Term Care Program. Across Upstate New York, 42% of MLTC members are permanently placed in a nursing home. While it changes the traditional landscape of Nascentia Health, our commitment to delivering quality patient care remains our top priority just as it always has,” said President and CEO Kate Rolf. “We will continue to advocate with our elected officials for adequate rate reimbursement and improved processes in implementing such drastic policy changes from the state.”

About Nascentia Health: Nascentia Health was born of the unification of VNA Homecare, VNA Homecare Options, Home Aides of Central New York and all their respective affiliated organizations and foundations. As a healthcare system without walls, Nascentia is an innovator in the concept of home healthcare, focusing on the patient as a whole and leveraging leading-edge care approaches and technologies to improve outcomes and quality of life. Specialties include in-home nursing and medical services; home health aides and elder care; complete cross-continuum care management; community health and wellness programs; transportation, equipment and innovative care technologies; chronic disease management; managed long-term care; and a Medicare Advantage Plan. The system's catchment area spans 48 counties across Central and Upstate New York.

###

At this time no further information is available and no further comments will be made. We will reach out to local media with developments as they become available.