PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CVPH & Hudson Headwaters Celebrate Plattsburgh’s Newest Family Health Center
Groundbreaking Ceremony Conducted at Site of New Facility on Plaza Boulevard

PLATTSBURGH, N.Y. (03/26/2018) – Working together, University of Vermont Health Network – Champlain Valley Physicians Hospital (CVPH) and Hudson Headwaters Health Network (Hudson Headwaters) will establish a federally qualified health center to help increase access to primary care for North Country residents.

Today, representatives from both organizations took part in a groundbreaking ceremony on the site of the new facility located at the CVPH Health Plaza, 89 Plaza Blvd. When complete, the 19,600 square foot building will provide ample space for up to seven primary care providers to provide high-quality care to patients in our community. Construction is expected to take a year to complete.
During that time, H.K. Freedman Renal Center patients are asked to use the North Plaza entrance off of Degrandpre Way. Patients and visitors to Gastroenterology Associates, Kevin J. Carroll Ambulatory Surgery Center, North Country Regional Blood Donor Center, the Wound Center, Diagnostic Center and Women’s Imaging Center should use the South Plaza entrance (closest to State Route 3/I-87). Wayfinding signs have been installed and volunteers will be available to assist patients. CVPH is providing regular updates on construction and parking on its website at UVMHealth.org/CVPHConstruction.

The project is funded by a $3.6 million matching grant from the New York State Capital Restructuring Financing Program. CVPH will own the building and Hudson Headwaters will operate in the space as Plattsburgh Family Health. A federally qualified health center (FQHC) is a non-profit, community-based health care provider that offers primary care services in underserved areas. FQHCs must meet a stringent set of requirements, including operating under a governing board that includes patients.

“We are pleased to partner with CVPH to deliver high-quality primary care services to the residents of Plattsburgh,” said Tucker Slingerland, M.D., CEO of Hudson Headwaters. “Our mission to provide all patients, regardless of income or insurance situation, with the best possible health care is made possible in large part because of partnerships with organizations like CVPH. We are excited to expand on our strong relationship with CVPH and look forward to continued success in the years to come.”

Stephens Mundy, president and CEO of CVPH and Alice Hyde Medical Center said the new Family Health Center is an important step to improving access to primary care in the community. “It will complement the exceptional services already offered by our Family Medicine Center on Margaret Street and our Adult Medicine office,” he added.

Access to primary care in the North Country has been a critical concern for many years. Current trends in health care increasingly rely on primary care providers for prevention, wellness initiatives and care coordination. This coupled with an aging population means more physicians are needed. The partnership between CVPH and Hudson Headwaters is natural as both strive to increase access to primary care, the foundation for a healthy community.

This is not the first cooperative endeavor between the two organizations. In Champlain, CVPH opened a new Diagnostic Center located inside the new Hudson Headwaters’ Champlain Family Health building on Route 11 on March 1, 2018. Two Family Medicine Residents from the CVPH Family Medicine Residency will see patients in the Champlain facility in another partnership between the two organizations.

The CVPH Family Medicine Residency was developed to improve access to primary care in the North Country. Studies show that 60% of physicians opt to practice medicine within 100 miles of where they completed their residency. “We have struggled in this community for many years with access to primary care. There are just not enough primary care providers to meet our needs. The residency will help to address this pending crisis,” explained Mundy.

He added that the partnership between CVPH and Hudson Headwaters is serving the community well. “We share a commitment to working together for the sake of the communities we serve.”
About Champlain Valley Physicians Hospital
The University of Vermont Health Network - Champlain Valley Physicians Hospital is a private, not-for profit hospital and a subsidiary of UVM Health Network – Adirondack Region. Established in 1967 with the merger of Champlain Valley and Physicians hospitals, CVPH joined Fletcher Allen Partners in 2012, which in 2014, became The University of Vermont Health Network. Together with its partners, Alice Hyde Medical Center, Central Vermont Medical Center, Elizabethtown Community Hospital and the University of Vermont Medical Center, CVPH provides high quality, cost effective care, close to home. Services include a nationally recognized cardiac services program, accredited cancer center, freestanding ambulatory surgery center, comprehensive rehabilitation services and a 24 hour physician-staffed Emergency Department. Governed by a 15-member Board of Directors, CVPH is accredited by the Joint Commission and licensed by New York State and Medicare/Medicaid approved. Learn more at UVMHealth.org/CVPH or follow us on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and YouTube.

About Hudson Headwaters Health Network
Hudson Headwaters is a nonprofit, community-based network of 17 health centers serving the Lake George/Adirondack and Glens Falls Region since 1981 and the northern Clinton County area since 2012. Services include comprehensive primary care, obstetrics, and gynecology, behavioral health, dentistry, podiatry, select specialty services, lab and imaging. For more information visit us at: www.hhhn.org.

About The University of Vermont Health Network
The University of Vermont Health Network is an integrated system serving the residents of Vermont and northern New York with a shared mission: working together, we improve people’s lives. The partners are:

- The University of Vermont Medical Center
- The University of Vermont Health Network Medical Group
- The University of Vermont Health Network – Alice Hyde Medical Center
- The University of Vermont Health Network – Central Vermont Medical Center
- The University of Vermont Health Network – Champlain Valley Physicians Hospital
- The University of Vermont Health Network – Elizabethtown Community Hospital
- The University of Vermont Health Network – Porter Medical Center
- The Visiting Nurse Association of Chittenden and Grand Isle Counties

Our 4,000 health care professionals are driven to provide high-quality, cost-efficient care as close to home as possible. Strengthened by our academic connection to the University of Vermont, each of our affiliates remains committed to its local community by providing compassionate, personal care shaped by the latest medical advances and delivered by highly skilled experts.