

Ascension Saint Thomas Celebrates the Opening of Its New Salem Surgery Center

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. (August 4, 2021) – Leaders from Ascension Saint Thomas Rutherford, United Surgical Partners International (USPI) and the Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce were among those in attendance at the August 4 ribbon-cutting ceremony for the highly anticipated New Salem Surgery Center. The ambulatory surgical center spans 13,000 square feet on 3 acres at the southwest corner of New Salem Highway and St. Andrews Drive in Murfreesboro.

In addition to general surgery, key specialties represented inside the ambulatory surgical center will include urology, ENT, and gastroenterology. The facility will also house an Ascension Medical Group specialty clinic for urogynecology and GI. New Salem Surgery Center is the result of a joint venture between Ascension Saint Thomas, United Surgical Partners International, and physicians. USPI is the nation's largest ambulatory services provider with over 330 facilities serving more than 2.5 million patients per year.

“By strategically shifting a variety of procedures from a hospital setting to an ambulatory surgery center, we are creating lower-cost options for the community we are privileged to serve,” said Gordon Ferguson, president and CEO, Ascension Saint Thomas Rutherford. “The New Salem Surgery Center is a product of our ongoing commitment to making compassionate care accessible, convenient and more affordable. Ascension Saint Thomas Rutherford is thankful to have USPI as our partner.”

“We are pleased to be partnering with Ascension Saint Thomas Rutherford to reach our shared vision of making care more accessible and affordable,” said Kristen O’Connor, Market President of United Surgical Partners International. “It is our privilege to help bring this much-needed facility to the heart of Murfreesboro’s New Salem community.”

The longstanding partnership between Ascension Saint Thomas and USPI spans more than 25 years.

About Ascension Saint Thomas

In Tennessee, Ascension Saint Thomas operates 10 hospital campuses in addition to a comprehensive network of affiliated joint ventures, medical practices, clinics and rehabilitation facilities that cover a 68-county area and employ more than 10,000 associates. Across the state, Ascension Saint Thomas provided more than \$150 million in community benefit and care of persons living in poverty in fiscal year 2020. Serving Tennessee for 15 years, Ascension is a faith-based health care organization committed to delivering compassionate, personalized care to all, with special attention to persons living in poverty and those most vulnerable.

About Ascension

Ascension is a faith-based health care organization dedicated to transformation through innovation across the continuum of care. As the largest nonprofit and Catholic health system in the U.S., Ascension is committed to delivering compassionate, personalized care to all, with special attention to persons living in poverty and those most vulnerable. In FY2020, Ascension provided \$2.4 billion in care of persons living in poverty and other community benefit programs. Ascension includes more than 160,000 associates and 40,000 aligned providers. The national health system operates more than 2,600 sites of care – including 145 hospitals and more than 40 senior living facilities – in 19 states and the District of Columbia, while providing a variety of services including clinical and network services, venture capital investing, investment management, biomedical engineering, facilities management, risk management, and contracting through Ascension’s own group purchasing organization.

About USPI

United Surgical Partners International (USPI), a subsidiary of Tenet Healthcare Corporation (NYSE: THC), operates the largest ambulatory platform in the country. With more than 330 facilities across the United States, the company serves patients in ambulatory surgery centers and surgical hospitals. For more information, please visit www.uspi.com.

###

Media Contacts:

Ascension Saint Thomas:

Anjali Bright

Anjali.Bright@ascension.org

USPI:

Katelyn Sim

communications@uspi.com