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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# MEDCARE EQUIPMENT COMPANY WELCOMES ST. CLAIR HOSPITAL AS LATEST PARTNER

GREENSBURG, PA, August 2, 2012 ... St. Clair Hospital in Pittsburgh's South Hills is the newest partner in MedCare Equipment Company, LLC, which offers respiratory and home medical equipment to patients and care providers in western Pennsylvania. St. Clair Hospital joins Excela Health, Conemaugh Health System, Heritage Valley Health System, Butler Memorial Hospital and The Washington Hospital in this growing enterprise August 1.

MedCare was formed in 2008 with the coming together of two former companies — MedCare Equipment Company, part of Excela Health, and Conemaugh Home Medical Equipment, Johnstown. Heritage Valley joined the company in September 2009, Butler in February 2010, and Washington in February 2011. MedCare provides a wide range of medical equipment, supplies, and respiratory care products for use in the home, nursing home, physician offices, and other health-related organizations as well as through retail outlets.

John Sphon, chief executive officer of MedCare, noted the benefits of this latest collaboration.

"MedCare's focus is on patients and how best to assist them in transitioning from the hospital to home in the most effective and caring manner possible," Sphon said. "We have been serving patients, physicians, hospitals, and extended care facilities throughout western Pennsylvania for many years. Working with care providers, MedCare has become a valuable part of the care continuum, helping to impact readmission rates and length of stay through effective clinical and customer service. We are pleased to partner with St. Clair Hospital, its physicians and clinicians in offering these valuable patient care tools as we broaden our care network."

"Part of our strategic vision is to expand external relationships and develop partnerships where it makes sense," explained G. Alan Yeasted, Chief Medical Officer, St. Clair Hospital. "Ultimately, the beneficiary of such a partnership is and must be our patients."

### About MedCare

MedCare serves a 15-county area including Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Bedford, Blair, Butler, Cambria, Clearfield, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Lawrence, Somerset, Washington and Westmoreland counties, as well as eastern Ohio and northern West Virginia. The company employs 93 people through various retail stores and warehouse facilities in Greensburg, Johnstown, Beaver, Butler, Moon Township and Washington.

MedCare Equipment Co., LLC, is a contracted Medicare provider of key patient products, including home oxygen. Designation as an authorized Medicare provider is important to service delivery as 70 percent of all patients served by the joint venture partners are of Medicare age. For more information, visit the MedCare Web site at <a href="https://www.medcareequipment.com">www.medcareequipment.com</a>, or call toll free, 1-800-503-5554.

For information on Medicare contracted suppliers, visit www.medicaresuppliersnetwork.com.

## **About St. Clair Hospital**

St. Clair Hospital is an independent, acute care facility that provides advanced, high quality health care to more than 400,000 residents of southwestern Pennsylvania. With 525 physicians and more than 2,000 employees, St. Clair is the largest employer in Pittsburgh's South Hills. Providing virtually every health care service that residents might need throughout their lives, the Hospital combines advanced technologies with exceptional medical expertise to ensure that the community's health needs are met. For more information, please visit www.stclair.org