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French Celebrates Success of Again Being Named a Top 100 Hospital in the Nation with a Community Barbeque

Local residents are invited to join in the festivities and attend the unveiling of the newly reconstructed French Hospital Medical Center front entrance

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA – April 24, 2015 – French Hospital Medical Center (FHMC) is pleased to announce that it has once again been named one of the **Nation's 100 Top Hospitals®** by Truven Health Analytics, a leading provider of information solutions to improve the cost and quality of health care. Since this honor is due to the hospital's wonderful caregivers and support staff, we will celebrate with them and we are inviting the entire community to celebrate with us.

"This truly great accomplishment speaks to the collective work and effort of our caregivers, medical staff, support personnel, volunteers, and professional management team, and we want to take this opportunity to celebrate them for the work that they do," said FHMC President and CEO Alan Iftiniuk. "Likewise, the support of this great community has helped make French Hospital one of the very best places for health care in the United States, and we want to celebrate that success with the people we serve."

The barbecue will take place on **Wednesday, May 13 from 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** at the main entrance of French Hospital, 1911 Johnson Avenue in San Luis Obispo. A short program at 12:30 will include an official ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the grand opening of the newly designed and reconstructed front entrance, atrium, courtyard, and reflection areas.

This first phase of completed front entrance construction will be followed by construction on a new one-of-a-kind 14 bed orthopedic specialty unit and the completion of the state-of-the-art Copeland Health Education Pavilion, which will allow caregivers and community members access to educational classes, simulation labs, and research facilities. Additionally, construction is expected to start soon on the new Stollmeyer Family Birthing Center which will add private birthing rooms, a new family waiting area, upgraded nursing station, and a new C-Section Suite. Several other innovative changes are being made, all to enhance the patient and visitor experience.

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Along with the designation of being once again named a Top 100 Hospital in the Nation, this acknowledgment comes on the heels of 17 recent Healthgrades awards, including the Patient Safety Excellence Award. Additionally, French Hospital was recognized as one of the Nation's Top 100 Cardiac Hospitals in 2008, and as a Top 50 Cardiac Hospital in 2010, 2011, and 2013 by Truven Health Analytics.

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About French Hospital Medical Center

French Hospital Medical Center, located in San Luis Obispo, California, is rated among the top hospitals in the nation for cardiac, orthopedic and GI services. The Copeland, Forbes, and Rossi Cardiac Care Center provides the latest innovative cardiac and imaging technology. The hospital is home to the unique Hearst Cancer Resource Center offering free education, resources and support to cancer patients and their families. French is a Dignity Health Central Coast hospital which also includes Arroyo Grande Community Hospital in Arroyo Grande, CA, Marian Regional Medical Center in Santa Maria, CA, St. John's Regional Medical Center in Oxnard, CA and St. John's Pleasant Valley in Camarillo, CA. Dignity Health Central Coast is an integrated network of top quality hospitals, physicians from the most prestigious medical schools, and comprehensive outpatient services including primary care offices, premier ambulatory surgery centers, technologically-advanced laboratories and imaging centers and a full service home health agency; all recognized for quality, safety and service. Each hospital is supported by an active philanthropic Foundation to help meet the growing health care needs of our communities. To learn more go to www.frenchmedicalcenter.org.