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WYOMING COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTH SYSTEM CONFIRMS RECEIPT OF \$20 MILLION GRANT FUNDING

Warsaw, New York, August 4, 2017 – Wyoming County Community Health System's (WCCHS) Chief Executive Donald Eichenauer today confirmed that WCCHS received the \$20 million grant funding this week that was awarded in March 2016. The funding was part of the New York State's Capital Restructuring Financing and Essential Health Care Provider Support program and was used to retire virtually all of the debt incurred with respect to the hospital's 2014 renovations.

At the time of the award Doug Berwanger, Chairman of the Wyoming County Board of Supervisors, stated "it was a game-changer. The money essentially clears the debt incurred during the hospital's recent and major upgrades and positions us to provide health care to the residents of Wyoming County for a long time."

Having paid off virtually all of its debt, the Hospital will be able to increase services in areas such as Orthopaedics, Allergy and Nephrology as well as take advantage of it new relationship with Erie County Medical Center (ECMC) Corporation.

"Having reliable health care services is important in a rural community. This funding will go a long way in ensuring WCCHS is prepared to provide high level services for residents of Wyoming County and surrounding area today, tomorrow and far into the future," stated Don Eichenauer.

"This is a significantly positive outcome for WCCHS, thanks to the hard work of the hospital's Executive Team and the Wyoming County Board of Supervisors led respectively by Don Eichenauer and Doug Berwanger. With the new partnership between WCCHS and ECMC, we can focus squarely on providing reliable quality health care services for Wyoming County's residents," said Thomas Quatroche Jr., President and CEO of ECMC.

Berwanger again thanked the state officials that were instrumental in helping secure the funding. "We worked very closely with Gov. Andrew Cuomo, Lt. Gov. Kathy Hochul and State Senator Patrick Gallivan to make this happen." he stated.

About Wyoming County Community Health System

Wyoming County Community Hospital is a 62 bed rural, acute-care hospital accredited by The Joint Commission. It is located in Western New York and is the sole inpatient provider for Wyoming County, which has a population of approximately 44,000. In addition to an Acute Care Hospital, its services include an attached 138 bed Nursing Home, Adult Day Health Care, and Inpatient Behavioral Health Unit. Wyoming County Hospital has approximately 2,500 inpatient admissions per year and 14,000 ED visits per year.

Our mission is to provide outstanding healthcare services and to have a positive impact on the health of our rural community. Visit our website at <u>www.wcchs.net</u> or like us on Facebook.