

November 1, 2010



LHC Group Announces Third Quarter 2010 Results and Authorization of a \$50 Million Share Repurchase Program

Highlights:

Net service revenue for the third quarter of 2010 increased 25.4% to \$166.6 million
Diluted earnings per share for the third quarter of 2010 increased 35.2% to \$0.73 a
Organic growth for total new admissions for the third quarter of 2010 was 9.6% as c
During the third quarter, 110 of the Company's agencies were surveyed by the Joint

LAFAYETTE, La., Nov. 1, 2010 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- LHC Group, Inc. (Nasdaq:LHCG), a national provider of home health and hospice services, announced today its financial results for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010.

Financial Results for the Third Quarter

Net service revenue for the third quarter of 2010 increased 25.4% to \$166.6 million
Days sales outstanding, or DSO, for the three months ended September 30, 2010, was
Net income attributable to LHC Group for the third quarter of 2010 totaled \$13.3 mi
Diluted earnings per share was \$0.73 for the third quarter of 2010, an increase of

In commenting on the results, Keith G. Myers, President and Chief Executive Officer of LHC Group, said, "I am extremely proud of the strong and well balanced operating results our team has delivered once again during the third quarter. It is a real tribute to the strength of our entire organization when we are able to exceed the expectations of all stakeholders while, at the same time, having 110 of our agencies complete Joint Commission surveys. I would like to congratulate and thank our entire team for their unwavering commitment to excellence and for consistently delivering the highest quality of care to the growing number of patients, families and communities we serve."

Financial Results for the Nine Months

Net service revenue for the nine months ended September 30, 2010, increased 19.6% t

Net income attributable to LHC Group for the nine months ended September 30, 2010,

Diluted earnings per share was \$2.05 for the nine months ended September 30, 2010,

Share Repurchase Program

The Board of Directors of LHC Group has authorized the repurchase of up to \$50 million of LHC Group's outstanding common stock. Under this plan, the Company can repurchase shares from time to time for cash in open market purchases, block transactions and privately negotiated transactions in accordance with applicable federal securities laws. This share repurchase program may be modified, suspended, terminated or extended by the Company at any time without prior notice.

In commenting on the stock repurchase plan, Mr. Myers added, "This stock repurchase program demonstrates the confidence we have in our company and shows our commitment to delivering long-term shareholder value. Our strong balance sheet enables us to actively invest cash in areas that we believe will drive future value for shareholders, such as acquisitions and stock repurchases. We intend to evaluate each share repurchase using the same discipline, analysis and process that have been so successful for us in our acquisition strategy. While stock price will be one factor in our ongoing repurchase analysis, we will also review many other factors – all with the goal of continuing to deliver the best possible return for our shareholders."

Guidance

The Company is raising its previously stated guidance range issued on April 28, 2010, with respect to full-year net service revenue from the original range of \$615 million to \$625 million to a range of \$625 million to \$635 million. The Company is reaffirming guidance of fully diluted earnings per share in the range of \$2.75 to \$2.85. This guidance does not take into account the impact of any future acquisitions or share repurchases, if made, or de novo locations, if opened. This guidance also does not include any future legal or other expenses associated with responding to the Securities and Exchange Commission or Senate Finance Committee inquiries.

Conference Call

LHC Group will host a conference call on Tuesday, November 2, 2010, at 11:00 a.m. Eastern time. The toll-free number to call for this interactive teleconference is (800) 677-1840 (international callers should call 973-890-8327). A telephonic replay of the conference call will be available through midnight on Thursday, November 4, 2010, by dialing (800) 642-1687 (international callers should call 706-645-9291) and entering confirmation number 82945056. A live broadcast of LHC Group's conference call will be available under the Investor Relations section of the Company's website, www.LHCGroup.com. A one-year online replay will be available approximately an hour following the conclusion of the live broadcast.

About LHC Group, Inc.

LHC Group, Inc. (www.LHCGroup.com) is a national provider of home health and hospice services, providing quality, cost-effective healthcare to patients within the comfort and

privacy of their home or place of residence. LHC Group provides a comprehensive array of post-acute healthcare services through home health and hospice locations in its home-based division and long-term acute care hospitals in its facility-based division.

Certain matters discussed in this press release constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, such as statements about the Company's future financial performance and the strength of the Company's operations. Such forward-looking statements may be identified by words such as "continue," "expect," and similar expressions. Forward-looking statements involve a number of risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements, including changes in reimbursement, changes in government regulations, changes in LHC Group's relationships with referral sources, increased competition for LHC Group's services, increased competition for joint venture and acquisition candidates, changes in the interpretation of government regulations, and other risks set forth in Item 1A. Risk Factors in LHC Group's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. LHC Group undertakes no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

LHC GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

2010 Dec. 31,
2009

accounts of \$10,013 and \$8,262, respectively	Patient accounts 77,604
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depreciation of \$13,549 and \$15,030, respectively	Property, b 28,259
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of \$1,298 and \$747, respectively	53,343	46,851
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Common stock - \$0.01 par value: 40,000,000 shares authorized;
 21,156,876 and 20,967,418 shares issued and 18,153,188 and
 17,990,685 shares outstanding, respectively 181

September 30, Nine Months Ended
 September 30,

			Net se	Cost of se
			Provision	General and administra
			Inter	Non-operating
Income from continuing operations before income taxes and noncontrolling interest	25,747	18,349	73,	Incom
Loss from discontinued operations, net of income tax benefit of \$9 and \$48, respectively	-	(15)	Income from continui	
				Less net income attributable to noncontrol
				Net income attributable to LH
				Redeemable noncontrol
	Net income attributable to LHC Group, Inc.'s			
common stockholders	\$ 13,298	\$ 9,829	\$ 37,355	\$ 31,2.
				Earnings per sha
	Income from continuing operations attributable			
to LHC Group, Inc.	\$ 0.73	\$ 0.55	\$ 2.06	\$ 1.7
	Loss from discontinued operations attributable			
to LHC Group, Inc.	-	-	-	-
			Net income attributable to LH	Redeemable noncontrol
	Net income attributable to LHC Group, Inc.'s			
common stockholders	\$ 0.73	\$ 0.55	\$ 2.06	\$ 1.
				Earnings per share
	Income from continuing operations attributable			
to LHC Group, Inc.	\$ 0.73	\$ 0.54	\$ 2.05	\$ 1.7

		Loss from discontinued operations attributable		
to LHC Group, Inc.	-	-	-	-
			Net income attributable to LH	
			Redeemable noncontrol	
	Net income attributable to LHC Group, Inc.'s			
common stockholders	\$ 0.73	\$ 0.54	\$ 2.05	\$ 1.
			Weighted average shares	

September 30,

			Operating ac
			Ne
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash			
provided by operating activities:			
		Depreciation and amortization	
		Provision for b	
		Stock-based compensation	
		Deferred incom	
		Loss on impairment of intangibl	
Changes in operating assets and liabilities, net of acqui		Rec	
		Prepaid expenses and othe	
		Accounts payable and accrued	
		Net amounts due to/from governmental	
		Net cash provided by operating ac	
			Investing ac
		Purchases of property, building, and e	
Cash paid for acquisitions, primarily goodwill and intangibl			
		Net cash used in investing ac	
			Financing ac
		Proceeds from line o	
		Payments on line o	
		Payment of deferred financ	
		Principal payments	
		Payments on capita	
Excess tax benefits from vesting of restrict			
		Proceeds from employee stock purch	
		Purchase of additional controlling	
		Noncontrolling interest distr	
		Net cash used in financing ac	
			Change
		Cash at beginning o	
		Cash at end o	
			Supplemental disclosures of cash flow inf
			Inter
			Income ta

September 30, 2010
September 30, 2010

Nine Months Ended

Services Facility-Based
Services Total Home-Based
Services Facility-Based
Services Total

Net service r
Cost of service r
Provision for bad
General and administrative ex
Operating
Interest e
Non-operating

Income from continuing operations before income
taxes and noncontrolling interest

22,387

Income tax e
Income from continuing oper.
Noncontrolling in

LHC Group, Inc. Net income attributable to \$ 11,154 \$ 2,144 \$

Total .

Three Months Ended

September 30, 2009
September 30, 2009

Nine Months Ended

Services Facility-Based
Services Total Home-Based
Services Facility-Based
Services Total

Net service r
Cost of service r
Provision for bad
General and administrative ex
Operating
Interest e
Non-operating income

Income from continuing operations before income
taxes and noncontrolling interest

16,593

Income tax e
Income from continuing oper.
Noncontrolling in
Loss from discontinued oper.

LHC Group, Inc. Net income attributable to \$ 8,833 \$ 999

Total .

September 30, Nine Months Ended
September 30,

Three Mon

Key Data:
Home-Based Services:
Home Health locations
Hospice locations
Acquired (1)
De novo (1)
Home Health:
Total new admissions (2)
Medicare new admissions (2)
Average weekly census
Average Medicare weekly census
Medicare completed and billed episodes
Average Medicare case mix for completed and billed Medicare episodes
Average reimbursement per completed and billed Medicare episodes
Total visits
Total Medicare visits
Average visits per completed and billed Medicare episodes
Organic growth (3):
Net revenue
Net Medicare revenue
Total new admissions
Medicare new admissions
Average weekly census
Average Medicare weekly census
Medicare completed and billed episodes
Facility-Based Services:
Long-term Acute Care Hospital locations
Acquired (1)
Patient days
Patient acuity mix

- (2) 2009 admission information revised to reflect patients who converted from tradit
(3) Organic growth is calculated as the sum of same store plus de novo for th

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Image: LHC Group Logo