

May 4, 2011



LHC Group Announces First Quarter 2011 Results

Highlights:

Net service revenue was \$161.8 million for the first quarter of 2011;

Diluted earnings per share was \$0.42 for the first quarter of 2011;

Organic growth in total new admissions was 11.8% for the first quarter of 2011; and

Company reaffirms FY 2011 guidance.

LAFAYETTE, La., May 4, 2011 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- LHC Group, Inc. (Nasdaq:LHCG), a national provider of home health and hospice services, announced today its financial results for the three months ended March 31, 2011.

Financial Results for the First Quarter

Net service revenue for the first quarter of 2011 increased to \$161.8 million compa

Days sales outstanding, or DSO, for the three months ended March 31, 2011, was 45 d

Net income attributable to LHC Group for the first quarter of 2011 decreased to \$7.

Diluted earnings per share decreased to \$0.42 for the first quarter of 2011 compare

In commenting on the results, Keith G. Myers, Chief Executive Officer of LHC Group, said, "I am very proud of our team for their outstanding performance in the first quarter, as we adapted to a 5.2% reimbursement cut and prepared for the face to face requirements and the new therapy rules that went into effect on April 1st. In spite of the reimbursement and regulatory challenges we faced in the quarter, we continued to improve quality outcomes and gain market share, as evidenced by our double digit organic admissions growth. I have never been more proud of our team's ability to successfully navigate change, while at the same time continuing to fulfill our commitment to providing the highest quality care to the growing number of patients, families and communities we are privileged to serve."

Guidance

The Company reaffirms its guidance issued on March 2, 2011, of net revenue in the range of \$660 million to \$670 million and fully diluted earnings per share in the range of \$2.15 to

\$2.25. This guidance does not take into account the impact of any future acquisitions or share repurchases, if made, or de novo locations, if opened, or future reimbursement changes, if any.

Conference Call

LHC Group will host a conference call on Thursday, May 5, 2011, at 11:00 a.m. Eastern time to discuss its first quarter 2011 results. The toll-free number to call for this interactive teleconference is (866) 393-1608 (international callers should call 973-890-8327). A telephonic replay of the conference call will be available through midnight on Thursday, May 12, 2011, by dialing (800) 642-1687 (international callers should call 706-645-9291) and entering confirmation number 44146917. 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. 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, hospice and private duty 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, 2010, 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

Property, buildi

Common stock - \$0.01 par value: 40,000,000 shares authorized; 21,320,226 and 21,

LHC GROUP, INC. .
CONSOLIDATED STAT
(amounts in thousands, except share and)

March 31,

Three Months Ende

	2011
Net service revenue	\$161,783
Cost of service revenue	88,956
Gross margin	72,827
Provision for bad debts	2,562
General and administrative expenses	55,040
Operating income	15,225
Interest expense	(94)
Non-operating income	172
Income before income taxes and noncontrolling interest	15,303
Income tax expense	5,161
Net income	10,142
Less net income attributable to noncontrolling interest	2,448
Net income attributable to LHC Group, Inc.	7,694
Redeemable noncontrolling interest	-
Net income attributable to LHC Group, Inc.'s common stockholders	\$7,694
Earnings per share - basic and diluted:	
Income attributable to LHC Group, Inc.	\$0.42
Redeemable noncontrolling interest	-

Net income attributable to LHC Group, Inc.'s common stockholders \$0.42

Weighted average shares outstanding:

Basic 18,215,831
Diluted 18,351,637

March 31,

Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by
Depreciation

Stock-ba

Changes in operating asse

Prepaid e

Accounts paya

Net amounts due to/fr

Net cash provided b

Purchases of property,

Cash paid for acquisitions, primarily goodwill and intangible assets and advance
Net cash used i

Proc

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Excess tax benefits from ves

Proceeds from empl

Purchase of additio

Noncontrollin

Net cash used

Cas

Supplemen

March 31, 2011

Home-Based

Services	Facility-Based	
Services	Total	
		Net service revenue
		Cost of service revenue
		Provision for bad debts
		General and administrative expenses
		Operating income
		Interest expense
		Non-operating income
		Income before income taxes and noncontrolling interest
		Income tax expense
		Noncontrolling interest
		Net income attributable to LHC Group, Inc.
		Total assets

March 31, 2010

Services	Facility-Based	Home-Based
Services	Total	
		Net service revenue
		Cost of service revenue
		Provision for bad debts
		General and administrative expenses
		Operating income
		Interest expense
		Non-operating income (loss), including gain on sale of assets
		Income before income taxes and noncontrolling interest
		Income tax expense
		Noncontrolling interest
		Net income attributable to LHC Group, Inc.
		Total assets

S:

March 31,

	Key Data:
	Home-Based Services:
	Home Health
	Locations
	Acquired
	De novo
	Total new admissions
	Medicare new admissions
	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 (1):
	Net revenue

Net Medicare revenue
Total new admissions
Medicare new admissions
Average weekly census
Average Medicare weekly census
Medicare completed and billed episodes

Hospice
Locations
Acquired
Admissions
Average Daily Census
Patient Days
Average revenue per patient day

Facility-Based Services:
Long-term Acute Care
Locations
Patient days
Patient acuity mix
Average revenue per patient day

(1) Organic growth is calculated as the sum of same store plus de novo for the period

CONTACT: Eric Elliott
Vice President of Investor Relations
(337) 233-1307
eric.elliott@lhcgroupp.com

Image: LHC Group Logo

Source: LHC Group