PITTSBURGH MERCY HEALTH SYSTEM
INTRODUCES NEW MOBILE MEDICAL UNIT TO COMMUNITY
AT NORTH SIDE OPEN HOUSE

New, state-of-the-art primary care vehicle delivers health care services directly to the people PMHS serves

WHO: Pittsburgh Mercy Health System (PMHS), part of CHE Trinity Health, serving in the tradition of the Sisters of Mercy

WHAT: New mobile medical unit unveiling and open house event
This public event includes brief remarks, guided tours, free blood pressure screenings, information, referrals, and a healthy snack.

WHEN: Friday, October 10, 2014, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

WHERE: Mercy Behavioral Health
East Commons Center
412 East Commons
Pittsburgh, PA 15212 (North Side)
Free parking for this event will be available at Allegheny Center Mall.

TO RSVP: No R.S.V.P. is necessary for the public to attend the East Commons Center open house. Note to media: To cover this event, please contact Linda Ross or Zandy Dudiak in advance.

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WHY:

Pittsburgh Mercy Health System (PMHS) will unveil its new $310,000 mobile medical unit to the community with a public open house event and tours. The state-of-the-art, 13-foot high, 39-foot long mobile medical unit will allow Pittsburgh Mercy Family Health Center and Operation Safety Net®, both part of PMHS, to follow in the footsteps of the Sisters of Mercy by reaching out to vulnerable persons and delivering needed health care services – in this case, primary care and case management services – directly to people who are most need in the community. Primary care services will be delivered by practitioners from Pittsburgh Mercy Family Health Center, PMHS’ primary care physician practice on the South Side. Case management services will be provided by Operation Safety Net, PMHS’ award-winning health and social service outreach program to people who are unsheltered and homeless.

The mobile medical unit features two modern examination rooms, a comprehensive lab, a pharmacy, a counseling area, and room to expand to eventually include dental services. One of the exam rooms also serves as a dental room. The vehicle is equipped with a hydraulic-powered wheelchair lift, making it accessible to persons with disabilities.

Staffed by physicians, nurses, case managers, program specialists, and others who can assist individuals in accessing needed health and human services, the mobile medical unit will serve adults and children who are in need of primary care, urgent and routine appointments, as well as individuals who are homeless.

The mobile medical unit is equipped to provide all of the same, major services of a primary care physician’s office, including routine physical exams, diagnostic screenings, chronic disease management (e.g., diabetes, asthma, and hypertension), well and sick adult and child visits, immunizations, school and sports physicals, Medicare and WIC exams, and more. Note: Emergency services and X-rays will not be provided.

Appointments for primary care services are encouraged. To schedule an appointment, call Pittsburgh Mercy Family Health Center at 412.697.3260. Appointments for homeless services are not required.

Funding for the mobile medical unit was made possible by Pittsburgh Mercy Health System and grants from McAuley Ministries, the Catholic Health East Heritage Fund, and a third donor who wishes to remain anonymous.

The vehicle was custom manufactured for Pittsburgh Mercy Health System by Farber Specialty Vehicles in Reynoldsburg (Columbus), Ohio.
The mobile medical unit will initially serve six Pittsburgh-area neighborhoods: Downtown, Glen Hazel, Wilkinsburg, McKeesport, North Side, and the Hill District. The vehicle will make rounds five days a week according to the following schedule:

- **Downtown: Mondays, 7 to 10 p.m.**  
  *Outreach to persons who are homeless and served by Operation Safety Net*  
  St. Mary of Mercy Parish’s Red Door  
  Boulevard of the Allies at Stanwix Street  
  Pittsburgh, PA 15222 (Downtown)

- **Glen Hazel and Wilkinsburg: Tuesdays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.***  
  9 a.m. to 12 p.m. *at Mercy Behavioral Health Glen Hazel Extended Acute Care Facility* in Glen Hazel and 1 to 4 p.m. *at Mercy Behavioral Health Garden View Manor*, a personal care home in Wilkinsburg  
  *By appointment, for persons served by Pittsburgh Mercy Health System*

- **McKeesport: Wednesdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.**  
  *Outreach to persons who are homeless and served by Operation Safety Net*  
  The Intersection (a social service nonprofit organization)  
  115 7th Street  
  McKeesport, PA 15132

- **North Side: Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.**  
  *Outreach to the general public and persons served by Mercy Behavioral Health*  
  Mercy Behavioral Health  
  East Commons Center  
  412 East Commons  
  Pittsburgh, PA 15212 (North Side)

- **North Side: Thursdays, 7 to 10 p.m.**  
  *Outreach to persons who are homeless and served by Operation Safety Net*  
  East North Avenue  
  Near Light of Life Ministries and Pittsburgh King PreK-8 Elementary School  
  Pittsburgh, PA 15212 (North Side)

- **Hill District: Fridays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.**  
  *Outreach to persons who are homeless and served by Operation Safety Net*  
  Wylie Avenue near Ebenezer Baptist Church  
  Pittsburgh, PA 15219 (Hill District)
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About Pittsburgh Mercy Family Health Center
Pittsburgh Mercy Family Health Center is part of Mercy Community Health, the community and population health division of Pittsburgh Mercy Health System. The practice, opened in May of 2012, sees approximately 2,500 individuals (adults and children) annually at its South Side office. For additional information, visit www.pmhs.org.

About Operation Safety Net®
Operation Safety Net® is Pittsburgh Mercy Health System’s award-winning, innovative medical and social service outreach program for the unsheltered homeless population in Allegheny County. It strives to address the circumstances which undermine the mental and physical health of persons served by creating avenues for people who are homeless to access the medical and social services that are necessary for them to improve their quality of life. Since its founding in 1992, Operation Safety Net has reached approximately 10,000 homeless individuals with more than 68,000 visits where they live – in camps along riverbanks, in alleyways, or beneath bridges and highway overpasses – and has successfully helped more than 1,000 individuals who were once homeless to find homes of their own. In doing so, Operation Safety Net not only assists with providing health care and affordable housing, but also offers this vulnerable population hope, dignity, and a sense of community. Operation Safety Net is part of Mercy Community Health, Pittsburgh Mercy Health System, and CHE Trinity Health, serving in the tradition of the Sisters of Mercy. To learn more or to make a donation in support of Operation Safety Net’s important work in the community, visit www.pmhs.org.

About McAuley Ministries
Named in honor of Catherine McAuley, founder of the Sisters of Mercy, McAuley Ministries is the grant-making foundation of Pittsburgh Mercy Health System. Established in 2008, McAuley Ministries serves as a catalyst for change, committing resources and working collaboratively to promote healthy, safe, and vibrant communities. Grant-making priorities include health and wellness, community development, education, and capacity building initiatives for nonprofit organizations which focus on the Hill District, Uptown, and West Oakland, communities historically served by the Sisters of Mercy, as well as organizations that are sponsored by and/or affiliated with them. Since its creation in 2008, McAuley Ministries has awarded 354 grants totaling $14.9 million. It awards approximately $3 million in grants annually to local nonprofit organizations. View a list of grants awarded by year at www.mcauleyministries.org.

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About Pittsburgh Mercy Health System
Pittsburgh Mercy Health System (PMHS), part of CHE Trinity Health, in the tradition of the Sisters of Mercy, is one of the region’s largest health and social service nonprofits and also one of its largest employers. PMHS includes A Child’s Place at Mercy, McAuley Ministries, Mercy Behavioral Health, Mercy Community Health, Mercy Intellectual Disabilities Services, Mercy Parish Nurse and Health Ministry Program, Operation Safety Net®, and Pittsburgh Mercy Family Health Center. Together, these PMHS programs and their 1,700 employees serve more than 26,000 individuals annually at 60+ locations in Southwestern Pennsylvania. To learn more about PMHS, or to make a donation in support of its important work in the community, visit www.pmhs.org.

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