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Celtic Healthcare Acquires VNA-TIP of Missouri

April 22, 2014, Pittsburgh, PA. Celtic Healthcare recently announced the acquisition of VNA-TIP Healthcare of Bridgeton, MO, which will expand its home health and hospice service areas from Pennsylvania and Maryland to the Missouri and Illinois region. VNA-TIP Healthcare, a HomeCare Elite agency, boasts a rich history dating back to the 1917 founding of the VNA of Alton/Wood River Illinois. The agency has grown with the acquisitions of the Visiting Nurse Association of Illinois in 1999, TIP Home Health Services in 2001, and many smaller home health and hospice agencies.

The Braff Group (TBG) originated the transaction, and served as the exclusive mergers and acquisitions advisor to VNA-TIP.

Gary Liebscher, former President of VNA-TIP Healthcare, grew his Alton-based home health care agency into one of the largest agencies of its kind in the Midwest. VNA-TIP Healthcare utilizes a unique centralized intake department to navigate referrals to over 30 home care and hospice branches in over 50 counties in the bi-state Missouri and Illinois area.

“These two agencies share the same mission of caring for our patients and employees,” states VNA-TIP Healthcare’s Executive Director of Business Development Mark Horton. “We at VNA-TIP Healthcare are looking forward to and are extremely proud to become members of the Celtic Healthcare family.”

Celtic Healthcare’s purchase of VNA-TIP will strengthen VNA-TIP’s existing services and will add a number of key features and services including complex care management, telehealth, and Journey specialty palliative care services. With the transition to Celtic Healthcare, nurses, therapists, and other allied healthcare professionals will be provided with strengthened support to enhance operations and provide the highest quality services to the individuals in the communities we serve.

“We are looking forward to serving the Missouri and Illinois region with VNA-TIP,” states Arnie Burchianti, CEO of Celtic Healthcare.

“This deal opens up an entirely new market for Celtic” commented Steve Braff, TBG Managing Director for Home Health and Hospice who headed up the deal team representing VNA. “With its ‘best-in-class’ management, operations, and technology infrastructure, the company is extremely well positioned to support VNA-TIP and further penetrate the Missouri and Illinois markets.”

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¹Source: Thomson Reuters, based on number of deals between 2008 and 2013.

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