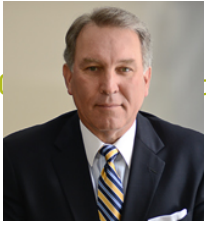


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Mark A. Kulik, M&A
Managing Director
Health & Hospice Experts
888-922-1838
mkulik@thebraffgroup.com

As part of its ongoing commitment to serving patients and families in need of high quality and compassionate end-of-life care, St. Croix Hospice is proud to bring Serenity Care Hospice into the fold. The Oakdale, Minnesota-based agency serves communities in Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Nebraska and Wisconsin, and with the addition of Serenity Care Hospice will now serve Missouri.

The Braff Group originated the transaction and served as the exclusive mergers and acquisitions advisor to Serenity Care Hospice.

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Headquartered in Harrisonville, Missouri, Serenity Care Hospice supports patients and families in Cass, Jackson, Henry, Bates and Johnson counties; a service area that complements St. Croix Hospice's existing Midwestern footprint which includes established branches in Hiawatha and Topeka, Kansas.

"St. Croix Hospice serves much of northeastern Kansas and we're pleased our partnership with Serenity Care Hospice will expand our reach into western Missouri," says St. Croix Hospice CEO Heath Bartness. "Serenity's reputation for outstanding hospice care is reinforced by positive reviews from patients and families. Their experienced care team reflects our mission and values."

"Serenity Care Hospice is honored to join the St. Croix Hospice team," adds Stephanie Clark, Executive Director of Serenity Care Hospice. "Our mutual dedication to transforming end-of-life experiences, and our shared focus on relationship-building within local communities, will further establish us as the provider western Missourians can trust for a patient-centered and dignified hospice experience."