

October 10, 2017

 Comfort Hospice Care

## Comfort Hospice Care Acquired by The Ensign Group

PITTSBURGH, October 10, 2017 — The Ensign Group, Inc. (NASDAQ:ENSG), the parent company of the Ensign™ group of skilled nursing, rehabilitative care services, home health care, hospice care, and assisted living companies, announced in September that a subsidiary of Cornerstone Healthcare, Inc., Ensign's home health and hospice portfolio company, acquired Comfort Hospice Care, a hospice provider serving Las Vegas, Pahrump, and surrounding communities in Southern Nevada.

The Braff Group originated the transaction and served as the exclusive merger and acquisition advisor to Comfort Hospice Care.

"Hospice continues to generate significant acquisition interest from existing home health and hospice companies, and also from 'adjacent' providers in the continuum of care including skilled nursing, rehab, and assisted living companies that seek to expand their post-acute capabilities," commented Reg Blackburn, Braff Group Managing Director for Pharmacy, Home Health and Hospice. Blackburn led the deal team representing Comfort Hospice Care. "We believe transactions in the hospice sector will remain steady, driven by both consistent reimbursement and overall demographic trends."

This acquisition will add to the existing assisted living operations in Las Vegas and expands Ensign's footprint outside of the metro area, providing care in rural areas across Southern Nevada. "We are excited to partner with Comfort's clinical and professional staff and community partners in building a world-class hospice team in Las Vegas and throughout Southern Nevada," said Daniel Walker, Cornerstone's President. "We are passionate about providing life changing hospice services, and we look forward to establishing Comfort as the provider and employer of choice in Las Vegas and all of Southern Nevada." With the acquisition, Cornerstone subsidiaries now operate twenty-two hospice operations, eighteen home health operations, and three home care operations in 10 western states.

The Ensign Group, Inc.'s independent operating subsidiaries provide a broad spectrum of skilled nursing and assisted living services, physical, occupational and speech therapies, home health and hospice services and other rehabilitative and healthcare services at 229 healthcare facilities, twenty-two hospice agencies, eighteen home health agencies and three home care businesses in California, Arizona, Texas, Washington, Utah, Idaho, Colorado, Nevada, Iowa, Nebraska, Oregon, Wisconsin, Kansas and South Carolina. More information about Ensign is available at <http://www.ensigngroup.net>.

The Braff Group is the leading mergers and acquisitions advisory firm specializing exclusively in health care services, including behavioral health, home health and hospice, pharmacy services, urgent care, health care IT, health care staffing, home medical equipment and ancillary health care services. The firm provides an array of sell-side only transaction advisory services including representation, debt and equity recapitalization, strategic planning, and valuation.

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