



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Community Partners Inc. and Assurance Health and Wellness Announce Behavioral Health Acquisition**

(Tucson, AZ) - Two of Tucson's longest serving behavioral health care companies and executives have joined forces. Community Partners, Inc. (CPI), formerly Community Partnership of Southern Arizona (the regional behavioral health authority from 1995–2015), led by long time behavioral health executive and advocate Neal Cash, has announced the acquisition of three year old behavioral health integrated care startup Assurance Health and Wellness. Assurance was founded by Fletcher McCusker, another Tucson based mental health leader, and the founder of Providence Service Corporation, one of the few companies to go public from a Tucson base.

"CPI's transition to a viable service provider is nothing short of remarkable. As healthcare in the private and public sector continues to evolve, this opportunity allows us greater economies of scale, expanded professional resources, and strong presence throughout the state. This all equates to more effective services to our clients and communities served," said Cash, president and CEO of Community Partners, Inc.

CPI has evolved as a very important provider after serving as the regional behavioral health authority for 20 years. CPI currently provides housing support, home and community-based services, Assertive Community Treatment Teams (ACT), case management and short-term crisis stabilization for the region's mentally ill. The combined agency will be one of the largest providers of mental health services in Arizona.

Assurance operates large integrated care clinics in Tucson and Phoenix and several rural clinics from Yuma to Bisbee, serving close to 7,000 patients. Assurance was the first integrated care clinic licensed in Arizona, meaning primary medical care combined with mental health services under one roof.

"Neal and I have known each other and worked together for over 20 years," said McCusker, CEO of Assurance. "Scale is important in the new world of managed care and this combination will be a huge resource for the state of Arizona in terms of the breadth and depth of the program services."

Vanessa Seaney, of CPI, was named the new president and chief executive officer of the combined enterprise, Dr. Christian Moher of Assurance was named chief medical officer and Cash will now serve as the chief strategy officer for CPI. Ms. Seaney and Dr. Moher have extensive experience in healthcare leadership, system development and quality patient care.

Community Partners, Inc. is a non-profit organization with a long history in behavioral health care in Pima County, formerly as Community Partnership of Southern Arizona. Community Partners, through its subsidiaries, offers outpatient behavioral health care; housing and supportive housing services; consultation and training; a conference center with in-house catering for meetings and events; off-site catering and food service and environmental/business cleaning services. For more information on any of these services or businesses, please visit [www.CommunityPartnersInc.org](http://www.CommunityPartnersInc.org).

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