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*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

**MEMORIAL HEALTH AND HCA HEALTHCARE NAMED A BEST EMPLOYER FOR VETERANS BY MILITARY TIMES**

***HCA Healthcare to give \$150,000 in support of veterans and their families***

*Savannah, GA (November 20, 2024)* – Memorial Health, as a part of HCA Healthcare, recently announced that it has been recognized for the fifth consecutive year as a Best for Vets Employer by Military Times. This recognition highlights the efforts HCA Healthcare makes to recruit, mentor and retain U.S. service members. HCA Healthcare has hired more than 65,000 veterans, active-duty and reserve personnel and military spouses since 2012.

Additionally, HCA Healthcare has been nationally recognized as a Military Friendly and Military Spouse Friendly employer by VIQTORY for the 14th consecutive year and this year earned the Gold distinction for the second year in a row. VIQTORY has also recognized HCA Healthcare in its Supplier Diversity Program and as a Military Friendly Brand and Military Friendly Company.

“At Memorial Health, we care for our military community like family – supporting veterans who transition from service, offering growth and development opportunities, and providing a strong sense of community, in which veterans and their families can thrive,” said Brad Talbert, CEO of Memorial Health.

The Military Times 2024 Best for Vets: Employers is a comprehensive, editorially independent annual ranking of the country’s best employers and organizations with

military-connected employment programs, benefits and support efforts. Their analysis is based on a voluntary survey that assesses companies on their policies, practices and benefits for veterans and their families. Recruitment and employment practices, as well as retention and support programs, are given the most weight in scoring.

As part of its commitment to supporting veterans, this year HCA Healthcare is giving:

- \$50,000 to the Armed Services YMCA to expand the capabilities of the “Children’s Waiting Room” at Blanchfield Army Community Hospital.
- \$35,000 to CreatiVets, an organization dedicated to empowering veterans and their families to find healing from service-related trauma through art, including songwriting, visual arts, music and creative writing. This gift will help finalize the build of the prescriptive music repository for veterans and their families to find healing through music.
- \$35,000 to The Honor Foundation, a career transition program for U.S. Special Operations Forces, to help enhance their industry “trek” experiences to various companies for program fellows in eight states and four virtual cohorts.
- \$30,000 to Operation Stand Down, an organization that engages veterans early in their transition from military service to find meaningful employment, to help expand their “Career Recon” employment program for transitioning service members.

HCA Healthcare also maintains a Veterans Colleague Network, which helps promote community and purpose and has also been successful in helping recently transitioned veterans navigate the civilian workforce. For those who wish to continue serving, HCA Healthcare also offers military leave and supplemental pay to eligible colleagues to serve as active duty military while working at HCA Healthcare. The organization also provides pathways for non-traditional military talent to find meaningful employment opportunities in healthcare through partnerships with Hiring Our Heroes, 50-Strong and local veteran service organizations across the country.

HCA Healthcare has a long history of supporting veterans and their families through their transition to the civilian workforce. In 2011, HCA Healthcare joined the Veteran Jobs Mission as an inaugural employer member, and committed to the coalition's goal of hiring 100,000 veterans by 2020. In 2012, HCA Healthcare joined the second cohort of the Department of Defense's Military Spouse Employment Partnership in order to formalize its commitment to hiring military spouses. In 2013, HCA Healthcare joined the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Hiring Our Heroes national advisory councils on veteran and military spouse employment, and, in 2015, HCA Healthcare received the Lee Anderson Award for overall excellence in hiring and retaining veterans, and transitioning service members and military spouses. In 2018, HCA Healthcare was an inaugural employer partner of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's



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“Hiring 100,000 Military Spouses” campaign and has since hired more than 8,500 military spouses. In 2019, HCA Healthcare and the U.S. Army Medical Recruitment Brigade created the Patriot Partnership Program providing specialized education and training for physician residency and fellowship programs nationwide. In 2021, HCA Healthcare received the Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award, the highest recognition given by Employer Support of the National Guard and Reserves (ESGR).

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*Memorial Health has provided quality healthcare services since 1955, giving patients access to highly trained physicians and advanced technology. Our 711-bed hospital is one of the region’s leading acute care facilities, serving 35 counties in southeast Georgia and southern South Carolina. Located in Savannah, Georgia, we are a regional referral center for heart care, cancer care, trauma care, children’s care, high-risk pregnancies and high-risk newborn care. Our hospital includes the region’s only Level 1 trauma center, the Memorial Health Dwaine & Cynthia Willett Children’s Hospital of Savannah, a primary and specialty care physician network and Consult-A-Nurse®, our 24-hour call center. We also have a major medical education program that trains physicians in numerous specialties and our campus is home to the Savannah Campus of Mercer University School of Medicine.*