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**CONTACT: JOHNNY SMITH** [johnny.smith@ascension.org](mailto:johnny.smith@ascension.org)  
cell | 314-733-6975

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## **Providence Board approves moving forward with urgent care on its campus**

(Washington, D.C.) January 31, 2019 – Reflecting its continued commitment to the residents of the District of Columbia, the Providence Board of Directors approved the addition of urgent care services to its campus.

Providence plans to file a Certificate of Need (CON) with the District's State Health Planning and Development Agency (SHPDA) to provide urgent care services on its campus. Providence will begin by sending a letter indicating its intent to apply for the CON to the SHPDA.

Providence is continuing a process of understanding, aligning and supporting the health and non-health related services that impact a person's overall wellbeing in the District. The urgent care center will be just one part of a larger, comprehensive strategy to address unmet health needs of local residents.

"In our ongoing discussions in a variety of forums with community members, local leaders, physicians and caregivers, many participants identified a significant need for urgent care services," said Patricia A. Maryland, Dr.PH, Providence Board Chair. "This effort will be part of our new vision for an innovative approach to improve the health of the community, inclusive of both health and services not traditionally considered part of healthcare but that have an impact on the health of individuals and communities."

A 2016 District of Columbia Community Health Needs Assessment found that 23.8 percent of adults did not have one person they identified as their primary care provider. It also found that 10 percent of District residents reported delays in getting medical care because they could not get a timely appointment. Providing urgent care services will help address these specific problems.

The planned urgent care center will be on the current grounds of Providence.

### **About Providence**

Providence has served the District of Columbia for more than 150 years. In addition to providing care through its skilled nursing facility, Carroll Manor, and primary care related services, which includes geriatrics, and behavioral health, Providence is transforming to a new healthcare delivery model that re-envisioning how we deliver care to meet the community's health needs and can best contribute to building healthier communities.

**About Ascension**

Ascension ([www.ascension.org](http://www.ascension.org)) is a faith-based healthcare organization dedicated to transformation through innovation across the continuum of care. As the largest non-profit health system in the U.S. and the world's largest Catholic health system, Ascension is committed to delivering compassionate, personalized care to all, with special attention to persons living in poverty and those most vulnerable.

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