



Illinois Hospital Association

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**CONTACT:**

**Alven Weil, [alven\\_weil@premierinc.com](mailto:alven_weil@premierinc.com)  
Premier Inc.  
704.733.5797**

**Danny Chun, [dchun@ihastaff.org](mailto:dchun@ihastaff.org)  
IHA  
630.276.5558**

## **Riverside Medical Center joins Illinois Purchasing Collaborative and Premier healthcare alliance**

***Kankakee, Ill., hospital expects to save \$500,000-plus by joining 26 Illinois, Indiana hospitals working together to reduce supply costs***

*NAPERVILLE, Ill. and CHARLOTTE, N.C. (December 16, 2008)* – Riverside Medical Center of Kankakee, Ill. expects supply savings of more than half a million dollars by joining the [Illinois Purchasing Collaborative](#) (IPC), an Illinois Hospital Association (IHA) program that partners with the [Premier healthcare alliance](#) to reduce members' supply chain costs.

The cost analysis process identified a 92 percent exact and equivalent product match rate to Riverside's former group purchasing organization product portfolio in the medical-surgical and pharmaceutical product areas. Formerly with Novation, the 336-bed hospital provides a full scope of inpatient and outpatient care to residents in the south suburban counties of Chicago.

Riverside President and CEO Phillip Kambic said, "As a long time participant in IHA's Illinois Provider Trust and a subscriber to Premier's Healthcare Informatics division, it only made sense for us to evaluate the IPC. Once the significant value of changing GPO partners was identified, we knew it was in Riverside's best interest to partner with IPC and Premier. The customized field support provided by IPC will enable us to make the most of savings opportunities in the long run."

IHA President Ken Robbins welcomed Riverside as the newest member of IPC, "Riverside is a classic example of how the collaborative is intended to work," said Robbins. "The hospital and IPC management teams are working side by side to identify opportunities and evaluate the savings shown during the value analysis process. Riverside is going to be a great asset to the solid base of hospitals that have already made the IPC a success."

[Premier Purchasing Partners](#) President Mike Alkire said, “We share Riverside’s progressive attitude of adding new services, programs and technology to revolutionize the way it cares for patients. The Premier healthcare alliance is dedicated to reliably delivering the most efficient, effective and caring hospital experience for all patients. It is with that in mind that we strive to collect, analyze and share knowledge to improve the health of communities our members serve.”

With the addition of Riverside, there are 25 Illinois and two Indiana hospitals in the IPC. Members currently benefit from 63 regional contracts that are providing savings of more than \$2.4 million annually over and above savings generated by Premier contracts. IPC members take advantage not only of Premier’s industry-leading contracts but also of the IPC’s collaborative model for enhancing those supplier contracts and negotiating regional contracts.

Riverside joins Thorek Memorial Hospital of Chicago and the two hospitals of The Methodist Hospitals, Inc., in Gary, Ind., as the most recent IPC members. Thorek is a 218-bed, not-for-profit, acute care hospital; serving Northwest Indiana since 1923, The Methodist Hospitals are Northlake in Gary and Southlake in Merrillville.

When IHA launched the IPC in May 2006, it was only the second statewide hospital association to establish a regional aggregating and contracting resource to provide hospital members access to pricing tiers previously unattainable. IPC is modeled after a program pioneered by GNYHA Ventures, Inc., a subsidiary of the Greater New York Hospital Association (GNYHA), in cooperation with the Hospital Association of New York State. GNYHA Ventures is a consultant to the Illinois program.

IPC Illinois members are Alexian Brothers Medical Center, Elk Grove Village; Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital, Hoffman Estates; Alexian Rehabilitation Hospital Elk Grove Village; Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana; Centegra Hospital-Woodstock, Woodstock; Centegra Hospital-McHenry, McHenry; Central DuPage Hospital, Winfield; Children’s Memorial Hospital, Chicago; Gottlieb Memorial Hospital, Melrose Park; Ingalls Memorial Hospital, Harvey; Katherine Shaw Bethea Hospital, Dixon; Mercy Hospital & Medical Center, Chicago; Mount Sinai Hospital Medical Center, Chicago; Our Lady of the Resurrection Medical Center, Chicago; Resurrection Medical Center, Chicago; St. Alexius Medical Center, Hoffman Estates; Saint Francis Hospital, Evanston; Saint Joseph Hospital, Chicago; Saints Mary & Elizabeth Med. Ctr./Saint Elizabeth Campus, Chicago; Saints Mary & Elizabeth Med. Ctr./Saint Mary Campus, Chicago; Thorek Memorial Hospital, Chicago; West Suburban Medical Center, Oak Park; and Westlake Hospital, Melrose Park.

### **About Riverside Medical Center**

Established in 1964, not-for-profit Riverside Medical Center serves communities in Kankakee, Will and Grundy counties. Riverside is nationally recognized for programs in heart care, obstetrics, trauma, oncology, orthopedics, rehabilitation, geriatrics, occupational health, treatment of alcohol and chemical dependency and psychiatric services. Riverside Medical Center in Kankakee, a 336-bed hospital, provides a full scope of inpatient and outpatient care. Kankakee is also home to Riverside's senior living community. The Bourbonnais Campus includes the Betty Burch Bridgewater Center for Radiation Therapy, an imaging center, Women's Diagnostic Center, outpatient surgery center, medically-based wellness center and physician offices. Riverside’s Community

Health Centers offer complete family care in ten communities throughout its service area. For more information, visit [www.RiversideMC.net](http://www.RiversideMC.net).

**About Illinois Hospital Association**

The Illinois Hospital Association, with offices in Naperville and Springfield, represents approximately 200 hospitals and health systems and the patients and communities they serve. Association members range from teaching hospitals, to community hospitals, to rural facilities, to specialty institutions. Since IHA was formed in 1923, its mission has been to strengthen and unite hospitals and make high-quality, affordable health care available to all Illinoisans. To make this possible, the Association works to ensure that adequate resources are available for the state's health care delivery system. With health care delivery going through radical changes, that mission is more important now than ever before. For more information, visit [www.ihatoday.org](http://www.ihatoday.org).

**About Premier Inc., 2006 Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award recipient**

Serving more than 2,100 U.S. hospitals and 53,000-plus other healthcare sites, the Premier healthcare alliance and its members are transforming healthcare together. Owned by not-for-profit hospitals, Premier operates one of the leading healthcare purchasing networks and the nation's most comprehensive repository of hospital clinical and financial information. A subsidiary operates one of the nation's largest policy-holder owned, hospital professional liability risk-retention groups. A world leader in helping healthcare providers deliver dramatic improvements in care, Premier is working with the United Kingdom's National Health Service North West and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to improve hospital performance. Headquartered in San Diego, Premier has offices in Charlotte, N.C., Philadelphia and Washington. For more information, visit [www.premierinc.com](http://www.premierinc.com).