



Media Inquiries Contact:  
Jessica Klein, Director of Marketing  
[jessica.klein@msgiveshope.com](mailto:jessica.klein@msgiveshope.com)  
(314) 225-4408

## **Community Medical Services Acquires Illinois Based BRIGHTSIDE® Clinics, Expanding Patient Access and Available Services**

Scottsdale, AZ - Community Medical Services (CMS), a leading national provider of medication assisted treatment (MAT) and counseling services for those suffering from opioid use disorder (OUD), has proudly acquired BRIGHTSIDE® Clinics, an office-based opioid treatment center serving patients at 7 locations in Northern and Central Illinois. This expands the CMS footprint into Illinois, bringing the total number of clinics to 68 locations in 11 states.

“The way that BRIGHTSIDE approaches patient care embodies our mission of treating patients in an environment grounded in dignity, respect and compassionate care,” says Community Medical Services’ CEO Nick Stavros. This thought is echoed by Phil Atteberry, co-founder and CEO of BRIGHTSIDE, saying, “When we were looking for a company to continue the BRIGHTSIDE philosophy leading with harm reduction and providing high quality, immediate care for people suffering from substance use disorders, we chose CMS because they embody that vision.” Mr. Atteberry continues, “We are excited to partner with them to continue to grow our clinic reach and provide service to more people in need.”

CMS and BRIGHTSIDE have both recently undergone significant growth, and the leaders of both organizations feel positive that this partnership will have enormous benefit for their patients, their employees and the communities they serve.

“BRIGHTSIDE’s office-based treatment approach complements our traditional Opioid Treatment Program locations,” says David Thurlow, CMS’s Chief Growth Officer. “As we expand and bring needed treatment to new communities, BRIGHTSIDE’s model gives us additional flexibility to ensure we are serving each community’s needs in the best ways possible.”

More than 1,500 Americans per week die from taking an opioid, according to the National Center for Health Statistics, making opioids by far the leading cause of fatal overdoses in the country. In recent years, the illegal manufacture and distribution of synthetic opioids such as fentanyl has driven a dramatic increase in overdose deaths. The services that both CMS and BRIGHTSIDE provide offer treatment options that help address this epidemic, with the goal of improving quality of life and enabling those with OUD to regain control of their lives, reducing the possibility of overdose.

One of CMS's core Values is, "We are evangelists for practices grounded in science and evidence", and CMS is committed to continually tracking patient outcomes to stay on the leading edge of providing paths to healing for those with OUD. Recent outcomes reporting from CMS's Chief Science Officer, Dr. Robert Sherrick, found that among the Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) factors the clinics actively track, within 6 months of treatment CMS patients see a 49% increase in employment and a 12% increase in permanent housing, and a 5% - 7% decrease in feelings of anxiety and depression upon 90 days in treatment.

This partnership will bring services to even more people in need in Illinois and fuel growth in opioid treatment throughout the Midwest.

### **About Community Medical Services**

Founded and based in Scottsdale, Arizona, CMS currently operates 68 clinics in 11 states, offering medication assisted treatment, counseling and other physical and behavioral health services to more than 20,000 patients per year. Every decision the company makes is grounded in CMS's Mission statement: *Our mission is to help those who are suffering from substance use disorders. We consider these people our patients, and our singular aim is to help them heal. We're proud that our clinics provide our patients an environment that is free of judgment and condescension and we're steadfast in treating everyone with the utmost dignity and respect with the ultimate vision of leading the change to eliminate the consequences of substance use disorder in our communities.*

### **About BRIGHTSIDE® Clinic and Recovery**

BRIGHTSIDE® Clinics is the premier treatment center for prescription drug dependency and heroin addiction in the Chicago and Northern Illinois area. Our mission is to provide medically-assisted treatment in the most discrete, convenient and friendly environment at any one of our 7 locations and telehealth. Whether dependent on painkillers, such as Vicodin, OxyContin, Demerol, and Fentanyl, or addicted to heroin, BRIGHTSIDE's treatment programs are uniquely designed for each patient based on their addiction and lifestyle. Through our patient-centered approach to Buprenorphine medically-assisted treatment (also known as Sublocade®, Suboxone®, Zubsolv®, Bunavail®, and Subutex®), we get patients on their way to regaining their life.