SAINT FRANCIS NAMES WILLIAM T. ORAVECZ AS DIRECTOR OF ICD-10 IMPLEMENTATION

Will oversee transition to new Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services mandated coding system

(Hartford, Conn. August 13, 2013) – William T. Oravecz, of Southbury, has been named the newly appointed Director, ICD-10 Implementation, at Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center.

Oravecz will be responsible for integrating the individual components of the enterprise-wide ICD-10 transition implementation program. ICD-10 (International Classification of Diseases, 10th Edition) will replace the current ICD-9 code sets used to report medical diagnoses and inpatient procedures. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) have mandated that hospitals must transition to ICD-10 by October 1, 2014.

According to CMS, ICD-9 produces limited data about patients’ medical conditions and hospital inpatient procedures. ICD-9 is 30-years-old, has outdated terms, and is inconsistent with current medical practice. ICD-10 codes allow for greater specificity and exactness in describing a patient’s diagnoses and in classifying inpatient procedures. ICD-10 has 150,000 codes compared with 14,000 codes in ICD-9. ICD-10 will pose significant challenges to providers and payors, but will ultimately provide higher-quality information for measuring healthcare service quality, safety, and efficacy.

Oravecz has more than 30 years experience as a top-producing healthcare technology and IT solutions executive with profit-generating operations, human resources, financial and marketing management expertise.

Oravecz holds a Masters of Business Administration in Finance and e-Commerce from the University of Connecticut, School of Business. He also holds a Master of Science in Radiology/Medical Physics from the University of Chicago, Pritzker School of Medicine and
Division of Biological Sciences. He is a member of the Healthcare Information Management Systems Society (HIMSS) and the American Medical Information Association (AMIA).

**About Saint Francis Care**

Saint Francis Care is an integrated healthcare delivery system established by Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, an anchor institution in north central Connecticut since 1897. Licensed for 617 beds and 65 bassinets, it is a major teaching hospital and the largest Catholic hospital in New England. Other major entities of Saint Francis Care include The Mount Sinai Rehabilitation Hospital, the Connecticut Joint Replacement Institute, the Hoffman Heart and Vascular Institute of Connecticut, the Saint Francis/Mount Sinai Regional Cancer Center, the Joyce D. and Andrew J. Mandell Center for Comprehensive Multiple Sclerosis Care and Neuroscience Research, and Saint Francis HealthCare Partners. Johnson Memorial Medical Center, parent organization of Johnson Memorial Hospital, Evergreen Health Care Center, and Home and Community Health Services is also a Saint Francis Care Partner. Saint Francis Care’s services are supported by a network of five major Access Centers and eight additional medical office centers sited throughout the region. For more information, visit [www.stfranciscare.com](http://www.stfranciscare.com).