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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Northeast Health System's Two Leading Behavioral Health Providers to Integrate Services**

*CAB and Health and Education Services to Combine to Improve Patient Care, Services and Efficiency*

**(Beverly, MA) – July 14, 2010** – Northeast Health System (NHS) announced today that it will merge two of the North Shore's top behavioral health providers – CAB Health and Recovery Services and Health and Education Services (HES) – into a new, single behavioral health entity which will create one of the most significant out-patient behavioral health providers in the state.

CAB and HES are vital, longstanding behavioral health providers on the North Shore that offer critical mental health, substance abuse, education, crisis and prevention services to more than 36,000 people annually. This common-sense merger will result in greater efficiency, increased integration and better care through enhanced services for their patients.

“Northeast Health System is a leading provider in behavioral health and we are always analyzing our services to ensure that we are maximizing efficiency, controlling costs and providing the best patient care,” said Ken Hanover, President and CEO of NHS. “With increasing costs and the changing world of health care, it is essential that we anticipate demands and take common-sense measures such as this to ensure that we can provide the best care over the long-term.”

Longtime HES and CAB veterans Paul O'Shea and Kevin Norton will lead the transition process. O'Shea, the President and CEO of HES, has been promoted to a senior executive position at NHS with responsibility for overseeing service integration within the NHS network of care.

“One of the greatest challenges of any behavioral health provider is ensuring that patients have the most streamlined access to all the care and services they require,” said O'Shea. “NHS, through its outstanding physicians, hospitals, social workers and other staff, offers tremendous resources to the community and I look forward to working on integrating its services so they are best utilized across our system.”

CAB President and CEO Kevin Norton will serve as President and CEO of the newly-merged entity.

“CAB and HES have served the North Shore for decades with a variety of vital and often complementary behavioral health and education services,” said Norton. “This merger is about offering the best patient care to our clients and I’m excited at the opportunity to lead the integration of these two critical institutions. In the coming weeks and months, we will have additional updates as we move ahead with the merger process.”

**About Northeast Health System, Inc.**

Northeast Health System, Inc. (NHS) is an integrated healthcare system comprised of a network of hospitals, behavioral health, senior health and human service affiliates offering North Shore residents general and specialized medical care. Along with Beverly, Addison Gilbert and BayRidge hospitals and the Beverly Hospital at Danvers Medical and Day Surgery Center – NHS’s four acute care facilities – behavioral health services are provided through Health & Education Services, Inc., while substance abuse and preventative services are available through CAB Health & Recovery Services, Inc. In addition, NHS offers senior health services through a continuum of care including skilled nursing and assisted living centers and community based programs.

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