



## OSF HealthCare welcomes Meridian Medicaid members

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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(April 23, 2021 | PEORIA, Ill.) – OSF HealthCare is pleased to announce that effective May 1, patients who are enrolled in Meridian Medicaid will be able to access OSF HealthCare hospitals and physicians as part of their insurance plan. The coverage applies across the state and includes access to OSF HealthCare Children’s Hospital of Illinois, the only comprehensive children’s hospital in Illinois outside of Chicago.

“Medicaid is an incredible asset in the communities we serve as many of our patients count on this program for medical coverage assistance,” said Bob Sehring, chief executive officer, OSF HealthCare. “We are glad to partner with Meridian in addition to Molina and Aetna Better Health to provide options for Medicaid beneficiaries.”

Medicaid helps ensure that the health care needs of vulnerable patients are met. Every year, OSF HealthCare works hard to serve children, parents and caretakers, persons who are disabled and others with the greatest care and love.

“Last year, nearly one and a half million children in Illinois were enrolled in comprehensive benefit programs funded by our state and federal government,” said Michael Wells, president of OSF HealthCare Children’s Hospital of Illinois. “As a destination center that provides the highest levels of pediatric and neonatal intensive care, it’s critical that patients’ insurance carriers support and ensure members’ access.”

Meridian Medicaid members will have access to a wide range of health care services through OSF HealthCare beginning May 1. In addition to primary care services, members will benefit from in-network inpatient admissions as well as laboratory tests, x-rays, medical equipment and more.

For more information, members can contact Meridian Member Services at (866) 606-3700 (TTY: 711). The call center is open Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. Information is also available by visiting the OSF HealthCare [website](#).

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**OSF HealthCare** is an integrated health system owned and operated by The Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis, headquartered in Peoria, Illinois. OSF HealthCare employs more than 23,600 Mission Partners (employees) in 147 locations, including 14 hospitals – 10 acute care, four critical access – and two colleges of nursing. Its physician network employs more than 1,500 primary care, specialist physicians, and advanced practice providers. Learn more at [osfhealthcare.org](http://osfhealthcare.org).

Located in Peoria, **OSF HealthCare Children’s Hospital of Illinois** is the third largest pediatric hospital in Illinois and the only full service tertiary hospital for kids downstate. With 136 beds and more than 140 pediatric subspecialists, OSF Children’s Hospital cares for more children in Illinois than any hospital outside of Chicago. Formally established as a pediatric hospital within the walls of OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center in 1990, OSF Children’s Hospital of Illinois has more than 7,000 inpatient admissions, 45,000 outpatient specialty visits, 2,400 newborn deliveries, and 18,000 emergency department visits each year. Learn more by visiting [childrenshospitalofillinois.org](http://childrenshospitalofillinois.org).