

John Hanlon, MD, MMM - President and CEO, Little Company of Mary Hospital

Why OSF HealthCare?

We're very excited about merging with OSF HealthCare. We have been talking with them for many months and we are very impressed with their commitment to the Catholic mission of health care and their commitment to Innovation in health care and not just the technological aspect but the delivery of it as well. :16

The importance of Innovation:

Innovation is very important in health care, it's not just the technological aspect of caring for the patient, but how to deliver care whether it's at the bedside or in the community. OSF has shown a particular commitment to both of those. In addition, several of us - physicians and administrators alike - visited the OSF campus in Peoria and in particular visited the Jump Simulation Center and were very impressed with the simulations done in terms of health care. We visited the distribution center, we're very impressed with the innovative aspect of how OSF attacks the problem of materials distribution as well as health care delivery. :38

People want efficient delivery of care:

No matter where you are, people want to have excellent care, and they want to have it be convenient as well. They want it efficient, they don't want to be in an emergency room for six hours, they don't want to have to come to the hospital get a blood draw, come to a hospital to get their blood pressure checked. More and more people are going to want to have care delivered in their homes, in their communities, and I think that's transferable whether it's a rural area or urban area. :25

Accomplishments at Little Company of Mary in the past 18-months:

Getting the master service agreement for the residents was a very big deal. We have struck up several relationships with the University of Illinois. We had an episode in February where we lost our neurology group, we only had one neurology group and in the course of one month were able to stand up an entire neurology service with some cooperation from the University of Illinois and another private group so that were able to maintain our primary stroke certification. We are very proud of that. We're also quite proud of the fact that our Leapfrog score has increased from a "D" 18 months ago to an "A" most recently. To go from a D to an A in 18 months we are extremely proud of. :37

OSF and Little Company of Mary are a good cultural fit:

OSF is primarily centered down state and had been off the radar of many people in this area. When we met with the OSF people, particularly through the initiative with PointCore and our Epic implementation, we were very impressed with their ability, with their efficiency, with their devotion to their Mission. OSF, in particular, is an example of devotion to Catholic health care that we felt extremely gratifying here in a potential partner. That and their emphasis on Innovation has been very exciting and really seems to be a very good cultural fit between the two organizations :37

Devotion of Little Company of Mary Sisters to health care in the area:

There's two things that really I feel are very important to this and one is the devotion of the Sisters of the Little Company of Mary. They built this hospital in 1930 and they've devoted their lives to health care in the southwest area of Chicago and they have been very impressed with the culture of the Sisters, with the culture of the hospital administration and they feel this is an excellent fit and that this will help to maintain Catholic health care delivered in the tradition of venerable Mary Potter. :32

The fit of the two organizations became obvious:

Every meeting I have with the Mission Partners at Little Company of Mary, I stress the three priorities and the three priorities are quality of care, growth, and cost control, because those are all quality issues, quite frankly. The interesting thing is when OSF first presented to us, we basically had the same three priorities and we all smiled when we looked at that slide because that was us and that's when we realize the cultures were very similar. But it really important thing was when Bob Sehring said "well, yeah, this looks good but nothing happens until the Sisters meet and they make sure that's a fit," and that was a fit, and I think that spoke volumes to the value system of OSF and that this is really about the Sisters of St. Francis and the Sisters of the Little Company of Mary and how well *they* fit together is going to be a major determinant to how well the system fits with Little Company of Mary within that system. So we're extremely excited about this, we look forward to it, and we thank OSF for welcoming us aboard. 1:04

Why are these affiliation talks different?

We have explored other affiliation partners in the past and we explored several affiliation partners this time around as well. What's different this time is the cultural fit with OSF. The success and failure of affiliations, to my understanding, hinges largely on the cultures of the organization that really can make or break an affiliation. We feel of that the cultural fit of these two organizations and their devotion to Catholic health care quality, their devotion to growth, their devotion to innovation, finding new modes of delivery, these are things that we think are very congruent with our culture and really bode for a much higher chance of success than any other affiliation partner we've looked at in the past. :46