

By: /s/ T. Mark Buford

T. Mark Buford
Vice President and Corporate Controller
(principal accounting officer)

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Index to Exhibits Filed with the Current Report on Form 8-K Dated October 24,
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Exhibit Number -----	Description -----
99.1	Press Release dated October 24, 2001

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 Executive Vice President
 and Chief Financial Officer
 (615) 373-9600

COMMUNITY HEALTH SYSTEMS, INC.
 ANNOUNCES STRONG THIRD QUARTER 2001 RESULTS WITH NET
 OPERATING REVENUES UP 21.6% AND EBITDA UP 17.9%

 CLOSED THREE HOSPITAL ACQUISITIONS SINCE SEPTEMBER 2001

COMPLETED \$585 MILLION COMMON STOCK AND
 CONVERTIBLE SUBORDINATED NOTES OFFERINGS

BRENTWOOD, Tenn. (October 24, 2001) -- Community Health Systems, Inc. (NYSE: CYH) today announced financial and operating results for the third quarter and nine months ended September 30, 2001.

Net operating revenues for the third quarter ended September 30, 2001 totaled \$416.6 million, a 21.6% increase, compared with \$342.4 million for the third quarter ended September 30, 2000. EBITDA for the third quarter of 2001 was \$74.0 million compared with \$62.8 million in the third quarter of 2000, a 17.9% increase. Net income was \$10.0 million, or \$0.11 per share (diluted), on 87.8 million average shares outstanding for the quarter ended September 30, 2001, compared with \$1.3 million, or \$0.02 per share (diluted), on 77.2 million average shares outstanding in the third quarter of 2000.

The consolidated financial results for the third quarter ended September 30, 2001 reflect an 11.5% increase in admissions, and a 13.8% increase in adjusted admissions, compared with the third quarter of 2000. On a same store basis, net operating revenues in the third quarter of 2001 increased 10.8%, admissions increased 1.9%, and adjusted admissions increased 4.4% compared with the same period last year.

Net operating revenues for the nine months ended September 30, 2001 totaled \$1,216.1 million, compared with \$968.2 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2000, a 25.6% increase. EBITDA for the nine months ended September 30, 2001 was \$225.1 million, compared with \$182.6 million for the same period in 2000, a 23.3% increase. Net income was \$30.5 million, or \$0.35 per share (diluted), on 87.6 million average shares outstanding for the nine months ended September 30, 2001, compared with \$2.4 million, or \$0.04 per share (diluted), on 64.1 million average shares outstanding for the nine months ended September 30, 2000.

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The consolidated financial results for the nine months ended September 30, 2001 reflect a 17.6% increase in admissions, and a 17.0% increase in adjusted admissions, compared with the nine months ended September 30, 2000. On a same store basis, net operating revenues for the nine months ended September 30, 2001 increased 11.0%, admissions increased 4.6%, and adjusted admissions increased 4.3% compared with the nine months ended September 30, 2000.

The 13.8% and 36.6% increases in the weighted average number of shares (diluted) outstanding for the third quarter and the nine months, respectively, ended September 30, 2001, compared to the same periods of 2000 are due principally to the Company's initial public offering in June 2000 and a secondary public offering in November 2000.

"Our outstanding financial and operating performance during the third quarter of 2001 reflects continued momentum from our strategy of centralization and standardization as we again exceeded expectations," commented Wayne T. Smith, chairman, president and chief executive officer of Community Health Systems, Inc.

Since September 1, 2001, the Company completed three acquisitions, each of which is the sole provider of general hospital services in its community. These newly acquired hospitals are Red Bud Regional Hospital (103 beds) in Red Bud, IL; Jennersville Regional Hospital (59 beds) in West Grove, PA; and Easton Hospital (369 beds) in Easton, PA. Each of these facilities had previously been owned by a tax-exempt entity.

On October 9, 2001, the Company completed a public offering of 12 million shares of common stock and the sale of \$287.5 million of 4 1/4% convertible subordinated notes, due October 2008, including the exercise of the notes over-allotment. Net proceeds from these offerings of approximately \$585 million were used to pay off \$500 million of 7 1/2% subordinated debt plus accrued interest and the remainder used to repay other long-term debt under the Company's credit agreement.

"During the third quarter we closed on one additional hospital and since that time have acquired two more bringing the total to four during 2001. The acquisition of these facilities continues to demonstrate the success of the Company's focused non-urban acquisition strategy. Furthermore, with the completion of our additional financing, the Company is well positioned to pursue our strategic objectives by providing us with an even stronger capital structure," Smith concluded.

Community Health Systems, Inc., a leading provider of non-urban acute healthcare services, currently owns or operates 56 hospitals across 20 states. These facilities, together with their medical staffs, provide a wide range of inpatient and outpatient acute care services and a variety of specialty services.

Community Health Systems, Inc. will hold a conference call to discuss this press release on Thursday, October 25, 2001 at 10:30 a.m. CDT, 11:30 a.m. EDT. Investors will have the opportunity to listen to a live broadcast of the conference call over the Internet through the Company's web site at www.chs.net, or www.streetevents.com. To listen to the live call, please go to the web site at least fifteen minutes early to register, download, and install any necessary audio software. For those who cannot listen to the live broadcast, a replay will be available shortly after the call and continue through November 25, 2001.

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STATEMENTS CONTAINED IN THIS NEWS RELEASE REGARDING EXPECTED OPERATING RESULTS, ACQUISITION TRANSACTIONS AND OTHER EVENTS ARE FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS THAT INVOLVE RISK AND UNCERTAINTIES. ACTUAL FUTURE EVENTS OR RESULTS MAY DIFFER MATERIALLY FROM THESE STATEMENTS. READERS ARE REFERRED TO THE DOCUMENTS FILED BY COMMUNITY HEALTH SYSTEMS, INC. WITH THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION, INCLUDING THE COMPANY'S REGISTRATION STATEMENT ON FORM S-1 (REGISTRATION STATEMENT NO. 333-69064), FORM 10-K FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND FORM 10-Q FOR THE QUARTERS ENDED MARCH 31, 2001 AND JUNE 30, 2001. THESE FILINGS IDENTIFY IMPORTANT RISK FACTORS AND OTHER UNCERTAINTIES THAT COULD CAUSE ACTUAL RESULTS TO DIFFER FROM THOSE CONTAINED IN THE FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS.

COMMUNITY HEALTH SYSTEMS, INC.
FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS
(UNAUDITED)
(IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT PER SHARE AMOUNTS)

THREE
MONTHS
ENDED NINE
MONTHS
ENDED
SEPTEMBER
30,
SEPTEMBER
30, -----

----- 2001
2000 2001
2000 -----

----- Net
 operating
 revenues \$
 416,569 \$
 342,447
 \$1,216,123
 \$ 968,234
 EBITDA \$
 74,026 \$
 62,769 \$
 225,104 \$
 182,625 Net
 income \$
 10,041 \$
 1,258 \$
 30,540 \$
 2,357 Net
 income per
 share -
 basic \$
 0.12 \$ 0.02
 \$ 0.36 \$
 0.04 Net
 income per
 share -
 diluted \$
 0.11 \$ 0.02
 \$ 0.35 \$
 0.04
 Weighted
 average
 number of
 shares
 outstanding:
 Basic
 85,945
 75,121
 85,810
 62,741
 Diluted
 87,833
 77,193
 87,648
 64,146

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COMMUNITY HEALTH SYSTEMS, INC.
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS
 (UNAUDITED)
 (IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT PER SHARE AMOUNTS)

THREE
 MONTHS
 ENDED NINE
 MONTHS
 ENDED
 SEPTEMBER
 30,
 SEPTEMBER
 30, -----

 2001 2000
 2001 2000 -
 ----- -
 ----- -
 ----- -

 Net
 operating
 revenues \$

416,569 \$
342,447
\$1,216,123
\$ 968,234 -

Operating
expenses:
Salaries
and
benefits
163,320
132,431
473,101
376,653
Provision
for bad
debts
38,384
31,192
112,343
87,786
Supplies
48,142
40,006
141,030
112,416
Other
operating
expenses
92,697
76,049
264,545
208,754
Depreciation
and
amortization
23,318
18,655
66,412
52,565
Amortization
of goodwill
7,313 6,542
21,387
18,920 ----

Total
expenses
373,174
304,875
1,078,818
857,094 ---

Income from
operations
43,395
37,572
137,305
111,140
Interest
expense,
net 23,541
32,409
76,715
97,714 ----

Income
before
income

taxes
19,854
5,163
60,590
13,426
Provision
for income
taxes 9,813
3,905
30,050
11,069 ----

----- Net
income \$
10,041 \$
1,258 \$
30,540 \$
2,357
=====
=====
=====
=====
Net income
per share -
basic \$
0.12 \$ 0.02
\$ 0.36 \$
0.04
=====
=====
=====
=====
Net income
per share -
diluted \$
0.11 \$ 0.02
\$ 0.35 \$
0.04
=====
=====
=====
=====
Weighted
average
number of
shares
outstanding:
Basic
85,945
75,121
85,810
62,741
=====
=====
=====
=====
Diluted
87,833
77,193
87,648
64,146
=====
=====
=====
=====

FOR THE
THREE
MONTHS
ENDED
SEPTEMBER
30, -----

CONSOLIDATED
SAME
HOSPITALS -

2001 2000 %
CHANGE 2001
2000 %
CHANGE ----

Number of
hospitals
54 50 50 50
Licensed
beds 4,935
4,491 4,478
4,491 Beds
in service
3,788 3,407
3,421 3,407
Admissions
40,772
36,576
11.5%
37,287
36,576 1.9%
Adjusted
admissions
76,905
67,555
13.8%
70,529
67,555 4.4%
Patient
days
152,720
136,371
12.0%
138,444
136,371
1.5%
Average
length of
stay (days)
3.7 3.7 3.7
3.7
Occupancy
rate (beds
in service)
44.4% 43.2%
43.9% 43.2%
Net
operating
revenues \$
416,569 \$

342,447
 21.6% \$
 378,298 \$
 341,361
 10.8% Net
 inpatient
 revenue as
 a % of
 total net
 operating
 revenue
 50.9% 50.0%
 50.5% 50.1%
 Net
 outpatient
 revenue as
 a % of
 total net
 operating
 revenue
 47.9% 48.4%
 48.5% 48.6%
 EBITDA as a
 % of total
 net
 operating
 revenue
 17.8% 18.3%
 18.4% 18.0%

FOR THE

NINE MONTHS

ENDED

SEPTEMBER

30, -----

CONOLIDATED

SAME

HOSPITALS -

Number of
 hospitals
 54 50 50 50
 Licensed
 beds 4,935
 4,491 4,478
 4,491 Beds
 in service
 3,788 3,407
 3,421 3,407
 Admissions
 123,331
 104,890
 17.6%
 109,413
 104,642
 4.6%

Adjusted admissions			
226,705			
193,691			
17.0%			
201,599			
193,204			
4.3%			
Patient days			
468,714			
403,431			
16.2%			
414,578			
402,485			
3.0%			
Average length of stay (days)			
3.8	3.8	3.8	
3.8			
Occupancy rate (beds in service)			
47.0%	44.3%		
46.2%	44.4%		
Net operating revenues			
\$1,216,123			
\$ 968,234			
25.6%			
\$1,067,203			
\$ 961,428			
11.0%			
Net inpatient revenue as a % of total net operating revenue			
51.0%	50.4%		
50.5%	50.6%		
Net outpatient revenue as a % of total net operating revenue			
47.8%	47.9%		
48.5%	48.1%		
EBITDA as a % of total net operating revenue			
18.5%	18.9%		
19.0%	18.5%		

* 2000 includes one more business day in the nine months ended September 30, 2000 due to leap year.

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COMMUNITY HEALTH SYSTEMS, INC.
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
(UNAUDITED)
(\$ IN THOUSANDS)

SEPTEMBER
30, DECEMBER
31, 2001

2000 -----

ASSETS

CURRENT

ASSETS: Cash
and cash

equivalents

\$ 17,699 \$

13,740

Patient

accounts

receivable,

net 334,538

309,826

Other

current

assets

75,593

85,011 -----

----- TOTAL

CURRENT

ASSETS

427,830

408,577 -----

Property and

equipment

964,637

850,201 Less

accumulated

depreciation

and

amortization

(186,693)

(142,120) --

Property and

equipment,

net 777,944

708,081 -----

Goodwill,

net 986,686

985,568 -----

Other

assets, net

106,143

111,611 -----

TOTAL ASSETS

\$ 2,298,603

\$ 2,213,837

=====

=====

LIABILITIES

AND

STOCKHOLDERS'

EQUITY

CURRENT

LIABILITIES:

Current

maturities

of long-term

debt \$

42,182 \$

17,433

Accounts

payable and

accrued

liabilities

238,333

223,440 -----

TOTAL
CURRENT
LIABILITIES
280,515
240,873 ----

Long-term
debt
1,211,586
1,201,590 --

Other long-
term
liabilities
12,882
15,200 -----

Stockholders'
equity
793,620
756,174 ----

TOTAL
LIABILITIES
AND
STOCKHOLDERS'
EQUITY \$
2,298,603 \$
2,213,837
=====
=====

- END -