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LOUISIANA HEALTH CARE QUALITY FORUM ANNOUNCES NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Baton Rouge, La. – (Nov. 8, 2017) – The Louisiana Health Care Quality Forum has named three members to its Board of Directors. The new board members are:

- **Michael Fleming, MD, FAAP** (Principal, Fleming Advisors), was one of the organization’s founding board members and its first board president. Prior to his current role, Dr. Fleming practiced family medicine for 30 years in north Louisiana, led the American Academy of Family Physicians and served as chief medical officer for Amedisys.
- **Ruth Kennedy** (Health Policy Director, Southern Strategy Group) is a health policy expert with more than 35 years of state-level experience. Previously, Kennedy directed Louisiana’s Medicaid program and spearheaded the state’s Medicaid Expansion Project.
- **Cheryl Tolbert** (CEO, Louisiana Business Group on Health) leads a not-for-profit, membership organization that represents employers on health care issues in the state. Tolbert’s responsibilities include public policy at the state and federal levels as well as educational programs, committee activities and group purchasing for the organization’s members.

“We are honored to welcome these individuals to the Quality Forum board. Collectively, their expert insights and counsel will be invaluable to the organization,” said Cindy Munn, Chief Executive Officer. “Dr. Fleming offers a unique perspective as a health care provider and administrator, and his return to the board is appreciated. Likewise, Ruth Kennedy’s experience with state/federal health care programs and Cheryl Tolbert’s understanding of employers’ health care issues strengthen the composition of our multi-stakeholder board,” she added.

Board President John Carroll commented that “Our new members share the Quality Forum’s commitment to reshaping health care in Louisiana. We are grateful for their willingness to serve and look forward to furthering our mission with their guidance and support.”

About the Louisiana Health Care Quality Forum

The Louisiana Health Care Quality Forum is a private, not-for-profit organization, dedicated to advancing evidence-based initiatives to improve the health of Louisiana residents. Its focus areas include quality measurement and analytics; practice transformation/medical home development; advance care planning; outreach/education; and health information technology (IT). Regarding the latter, the Quality Forum serves as the State-Designated Entity for health IT initiatives in Louisiana, supporting health care providers and critical access/rural hospitals with adoption and implementation of electronic health records as well as managing the statewide health information exchange. For more information, visit www.lhcf.org.

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