



Contact: Randy Giles
Chief Financial Officer
(301) 581-5687

Drew Asher
SVP, Corporate Finance
(301) 581-5717

COVENTRY HEALTH CARE COMPLETES ACQUISITION OF CHILDREN'S MERCY'S FAMILY HEALTH PARTNERS

BETHESDA, Md. (January 3, 2012) — Coventry Health Care, Inc. (NYSE: CVH) announced today that it has completed its previously announced acquisition of the business of Children's Mercy's Family Health Partners, a Medicaid health plan that was operated by Children's Mercy Hospital, Kansas City. With the addition of Children's Mercy's Family Health Partners, Coventry now serves nearly 900,000 Medicaid recipients across 10 states and more than 1.5 million members in its seven-state Midwest region. In addition, Coventry and Children's Mercy Hospital have entered into a long-term contractual partnership for Children's Mercy to deliver hospital and physician services to Coventry members as part of the transaction.

"I am pleased to announce the completion of this transaction which strengthens our presence in the Kansas and Missouri markets while also expanding our relationship with a premier children's health system," said Allen F. Wise, chief executive officer of Coventry. "This acquisition reaffirms Coventry's commitment to growing our Medicaid business as we have grown from 6 states and \$1.1 billion in revenue in 2009 to 10 states with approximately \$2.5 billion in annualized revenue today."

As previously reported, the transaction is expected to be slightly accretive to earnings in 2012.

This press release contains forward-looking statements made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements are defined as statements that are not historical facts and include those statements relating to future events or future financial performance, including the guidance herein. Actual performance may be significantly impacted by certain risks and uncertainties including those described in Coventry's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 30, 2010 and Coventry's subsequent filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Coventry undertakes no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements.

Coventry Health Care (www.coventryhealthcare.com) is a diversified national managed healthcare company based in Bethesda, Maryland, operating health plans, insurance companies, network rental and workers' compensation services companies. Coventry provides a full range of risk and fee-based managed care products and services to a broad cross section of individuals, employer and government-funded groups, government agencies, and other insurance carriers and administrators.