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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – May 5, 2020

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WHA Statement: Badger Bounce Back Plan Hospital Metrics

The following statement regarding today's release of Badger Bounce Back Plan Hospital Metrics can be attributed to WHA President and CEO Eric Borgerding:

“The new hospital metrics included as part of the Governor’s Badger Bounce Back (BBB) Plan are balanced and reasonable for the purpose intended – affirming that Wisconsin hospitals are not in crisis mode as a result of COVID-19. The data will likely show that Wisconsin’s hospitals have been handling the impact of COVID-19 quite well.

“By many measures, Wisconsin’s hospitals are some of the best in the country and today remain safe, clean and expertly serving their communities’ health needs. No one should hesitate to use Wisconsin’s excellent health care system if they believe they have a serious or urgent health condition. And as more and more hospitals and clinics phase back into performing other important procedures and services, it is important for folks to connect with their primary care provider to check on availability.

“The new BBB metrics were established using the Institute of Medicine’s health care disaster planning guidelines. Thanks to a combination of factors, including the tremendous health care leaders, providers and staff we have in Wisconsin, we are confident that no Wisconsin hospitals have reached those extreme operating conditions. If that were to change, and change drastically from where they are today, these metrics will provide a warning sign.

“Like the rest of the nation, Wisconsin’s response to COVID-19 continues to evolve as we learn more about the virus and gain experience in treating and mitigating infection. We believe these new metrics are adaptable to evolving and developing strategies and can help adjust, fine-tune and right-size next steps.

“WHA has been a sought-after and relied-upon information, expertise and data resource for the public and policymakers during this pandemic. We were pleased to provide input into these new metrics and remain committed to helping the State, our economy and our health care system emerge as soon and as safely as possible from this situation. We stand ready to help our elected leaders, health care leaders and business leaders find common ground going forward.”