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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Mount Mary College and Medical College of Wisconsin Sign Agreement for Dual Degree Program**

#### *Undergraduate and Master of Public Health degrees obtained in 5 years*

**MILWAUKEE** (July 18, 2012) – Mount Mary College and the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) have signed a collaborative agreement to provide a dual degree program that includes a four-year baccalaureate degree from Mount Mary and a one-year Master of Public Health degree from MCW. It is the first 4:1 program of its kind to be offered by the two institutions and will be jointly administered.

Mount Mary students in their junior year may apply to MCW's Master of Public Health Program beginning the spring of 2013. Admission requirements include a minimum GPA of 3.3 and completion of 96 undergraduate credits that include coursework in biology, behavioral science, statistics and advanced composition. Upon acceptance, Mount Mary students will enroll in up to five MCW Master of Public Health courses (15 credits) during their senior year. After obtaining a baccalaureate degree from Mount Mary, students will continue as graduate students in MCW's Master of Public Health program. The agreement waives the Graduate Record Exam and application fees.

According to Mount Mary President Eileen Schwalbach, Ph.D., the dual degree program was created to prepare graduates for professions in a rapidly changing health care environment. The 4:1 model also facilitates the completion of a graduate degree in an affordable and efficient manner for academically strong and motivated students.

“The Medical College of Wisconsin is a recognized leader in educating health care professionals,” stated Mount Mary College President, Dr. Eileen Schwalbach. “The dual degree program will allow our students to continue their Mount Mary education with seamless access to a Master of Public Health degree and the full spectrum of MCW offerings,” she added.

“This new dual degree program provides bright, motivated students the opportunity to jumpstart their graduate work in the health sciences in a way that is economical and smart. We’re pleased to be working with Mount Mary College, who is a strong academic partner for MCW,” said John R. Raymond, Sr., M.D., President and CEO of MCW.

Mount Mary offers more than 30 undergraduate majors including several programs in health and behavioral sciences. The Medical College of Wisconsin has been offering the Master of Public Health program since 1991. The mission of MCW’s Master of Public Health Program is to prepare and develop a competent, professional, and diverse public health workforce through community-academic partnerships in education, research, and service to enhance the health of the public.

Additional information on the dual program can be found at <http://www.mtmary.edu/academics.htm> or by contacting Wendy McCredie, Ph.D., Mount Mary’s Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, at 414-258-4810, ext. 608 or [mccrediw@mtmary.edu](mailto:mccrediw@mtmary.edu). Information on the Master of Public Health program at MCW can be found at [www.mcw.edu/mphprogram.htm](http://www.mcw.edu/mphprogram.htm) or by contacting [mph@mcw.edu](mailto:mph@mcw.edu) or 414-955-4510.

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Mount Mary College, founded in 1913 by the School Sisters of Notre Dame, was Wisconsin’s first four-year, degree-granting Catholic college for women. Located on an 80-acre campus in Milwaukee, the College offers more than 30 undergraduate majors for women and eight graduate programs for women and men. Mount Mary also emphasizes study abroad, service learning, and social justice initiatives. Its nearly 1900 students enjoy small class sizes (average 15) and over 90 percent of full-time students receive financial aid or scholarships. Through classroom instruction and community service, Mount Mary develops women to be leaders in their professions and their communities, serving as role models to inspire achievement in others. Visit Mount Mary at [www.mtmary.edu](http://www.mtmary.edu).

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About the Medical College of Wisconsin

The Medical College of Wisconsin is the state’s only private medical school and health sciences graduate school. Founded in 1893, it is dedicated to leadership and excellence in education, patient care, research and service. More than 1,200 students are enrolled in the Medical College’s medical school and graduate school programs. A major national research center, it is the largest research institution in the Milwaukee metro area and second largest in Wisconsin. In FY 2010 – 11, faculty received more than \$175 million in external support for research, teaching, training and related purposes, of which more than \$161 million is for research. This total includes highly competitive research and training awards from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Annually, College faculty direct or

collaborate on more than 2,200 research studies, including clinical trials. Additionally, more than 1,350 physicians provide care in virtually every specialty of medicine for more than 400,000 patients annually.

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