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### **PATIENTS FIRST TO BUILD NEW ST. CLAIR CLINIC**

(Washington, MO, February, 2009) Patients First Health Care has announced plans to build a new medical clinic in St. Clair. The company recently purchased two and one-half acres along Hwy 47 in St. Clair, south of McDonalds. The new clinic will house the Patients First primary care practice of Dr. Kirk Brockman and Dr. Patrick Smith, currently located at 370 Commercial Street in St. Clair.

Plans for the new clinic project include a 6,500 square foot, one-story brick building, which will be twice as large as the current facility on Commercial Street. The new building will accommodate up to four practitioners, and will be built for future expansion.

“We’re pleased to announce this expansion,” stated Dr. Michael Rau, Chairman for Patients First Health Care. “The St. Clair community has supported the St. Clair Medical Clinic during their 20-plus years in operation, and it will be great to move our physicians and staff into a much larger facility and expand the services Patients First can offer.”

“Our goal, in today’s economy, is that this project will be a local effort – from contractor, sub-contractors, to purchased materials,” commented Rau. “We’re investing in the community from ground up, and we’re requesting that the selected contractor employ as many local residents as possible.”

Patients First anticipates starting the project in spring, with an anticipated fall, 2009 completion.

Patients First Health Care, a multi-specialty physician group, operates sixteen medical clinics throughout east central Missouri. Founded in 1998, Patients First offers sixty-one physicians providing primary care and specialty care to residents of Franklin, Warren, St. Charles, St. Louis, Gasconade, and Crawford counties.