Pediatric nephrologist joins Sacred Heart, UF Health

PENSACOLA, Fla. — Pediatric nephrologist Ali Kurady, MD, has joined the faculty of the University of Florida College of Medicine, which is affiliated with The Studer Family Children's Hospital at Sacred Heart. Beginning in September, Dr. Kurady will see patients full-time in The Children's Hospital and in his outpatient office, located at 1657 Trinity Drive on Sacred Heart's Pensacola campus.

As a pediatric nephrologist – or kidney doctor – Dr. Kurady diagnoses and treats issues such as kidney stones, kidney disease, kidney failure, high blood pressure, renal insufficiency, urinary tract disease and bladder problems. To schedule an appointment with Dr. Kurady or other pediatric specialists at Sacred Heart, call 850-416-1575 or visit StuderFamilyChildrensHospital.com.

Dr. Kurady is a fellowship-trained pediatric nephrologist with 25 years of medical experience. He comes to Pensacola from a fellowship in pediatric nephrology at State University of New York in Brooklyn. He completed residency training in pediatrics at Richmond University Medical Center in Staten Island, New York. He is a fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics and is board certified in pediatrics.

After graduating with his medical degree from Mustansiriyah University College of Medicine in Baghdad, Iraq, Dr. Kurady completed residency training in pediatrics at Al Mansoor Pediatric Hospital in Baghdad, where he became an attending pediatrician. Dr. Kurady received a fellowship and practiced pediatric cardiology at Ibn Al-Bitar Hospital. He then practiced pediatrics at the Abu Dhabi Department of Health in United Arab Emirates before coming to the United States.

In 2017, Sacred Heart formed an affiliation with UF Health to provide an expanded range of specialized pediatric care. Since then, UF and Sacred Heart have hired 22 physician specialists, providing care in pediatric cardiology, pediatric endocrinology, pediatric gastroenterology, pediatric hematology/oncology, pediatric infectious diseases, pediatric nephrology, pediatric orthopedic surgery, pediatric otolaryngology, pediatric pulmonology, pediatric surgery and pediatric urology.

UF Health Shands Children's Hospital is recognized among the nation's best hospitals by U.S. News & World Report in six pediatric medical specialties. In addition to pediatric specialty care, Sacred Heart and UF Health have collaborated to launch a new kidney transplant program to benefit the thousands of individuals across the Southeast awaiting a lifesaving transplant. Sacred Heart's pediatric and OB/GYN physician residency programs are also affiliated with the UF College of Medicine.

The expansion of pediatric specialty services coincides with the construction at Sacred Heart of a new four-story children's hospital. The hospital will be connected to the front of the existing children's hospital and will include a pediatric emergency room and trauma center, new procedure rooms

dedicated to pediatric surgery, an expanded neonatal intensive care unit, a pediatric oncology unit, a medical/surgical unit, observation beds and a pediatric rehabilitation gym.

The Studer Family Children's Hospital at Sacred Heart is a 117-bed facility that serves as the only children's hospital in Northwest Florida. The Children's Hospital offers a wide range of services to meet all of a child's medical needs, from a pediatric emergency room and neonatal intensive care unit to a medical staff of more than 120 board-certified physicians across 30 pediatric specialties. The Children's Hospital provides quality, compassionate care to children, regardless of their parents' ability to pay. Sacred Heart Health System is a member of Ascension, the largest non-profit health system in the U.S. and the world's largest Catholic health system. For more information about the services available at The Studer Family Children's Hospital at Sacred Heart, visit StuderFamilyChildrensHospital.com.

About Sacred Heart Health System
In Florida, Ascension operates Sacred Heart Health based in Pensacola and St. Vincent's HealthCare based in Jacksonville. Together, Ascension operates seven hospitals and more than 100 other sites of care, and they employ nearly 10,000 associates. Across the region, Sacred Heart and St. Vincent's have served North Florida communities for more than 145 years. In fiscal year 2017, they provided $168 million in community benefit and care of persons living in poverty. Ascension (www.ascension.org) is a faith-based healthcare organization dedicated to transformation through innovation across the continuum of care. As the largest non-profit health system in the U.S. and the world's largest Catholic health system, Ascension is committed to delivering compassionate, personalized care to all, with special attention to persons living in poverty and those most vulnerable. Ascension includes approximately 165,000 associates and 34,000 aligned providers. Ascension's Healthcare Division operates more than 2,600 sites of care – including 153 hospitals and more than 50 senior living facilities – in 22 states and the District of Columbia. For more information on Sacred Heart Health System, visit www.sacred-heart.org.

About University of Florida Health
UF Health is the Southeast's most comprehensive academic health center. With main campuses in Gainesville and Jacksonville, UF Health includes six health colleges, nine eight research institutes and centers, two teaching hospitals, six specialty hospitals and a host of physician medical practices and outpatient services throughout North Central and Northeast Florida. Its mission is to promote health through outstanding and high-quality patient care, innovative and rigorous education in the health professions and biomedical sciences, and high-impact research across the spectrum of basic, translational and clinical investigation.

UF Health includes the UF colleges of Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Public Health and Health Professions, and Veterinary Medicine, which has both a large animal hospital and a small animal hospital. The system also encompasses several UF research institutes and centers. The full spectrum of patient-care services are provided through UF Health Shands Hospital and UF Health Jacksonville, UF's private, not-for-profit affiliates. UF Health Shands Hospital in Gainesville includes UF Health Shands Children's Hospital, UF Health Shands Cancer Hospital, the UF Health Heart & Vascular Hospital and the UF Health Neuromedicine Hospital. Two additional specialty hospitals, UF Health Shands Rehab Hospital and UF Health Shands Psychiatric Hospital, are also in Gainesville. UF Health Jacksonville and UF Health North Hospital are the system's Northeast Florida hospitals. UF Health offers a network of

outpatient rehabilitation centers, two home health agencies in Gainesville and Jacksonville, and more than 100 UF physician outpatient practices throughout North Central and Northeast Florida.

###