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Lt. Governor Kim Guadagno Visits QualCare Inc. During Women-Owned Business Tour

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New Jersey's Largest Provider-Sponsored Managed Care Company Emerging as Regional Leader in the Healthcare Industry

Trenton, NJ – In celebration of Women's History Month, Lt. Governor Kim Guadagno continued her statewide tour of New Jersey's unique and diverse women-owned business enterprises with a visit to QualCare Inc. in Piscataway. Founded in 1991 from a consortium of hospital systems, QualCare, Inc. is one of the region's leading providers of health care coverage. The company provides the public and private marketplace with a higher-quality, lower-cost alternative to commercial insurance companies.

"Women executives are growing considerable businesses across the country with 17 percent of those businesses owned and operated by women in the healthcare industry," said Lt. Governor Guadagno. "The Christie Administration congratulates the executives at Qualcare and their outstanding success as a leader in healthcare coverage. I am proud to offer our continued support as they grow in the Garden State."

QualCare's network covers more than 100 acute, specialty and rehabilitation hospitals, as well as over 30,000 physicians and other ancillary providers at 33,000 locations across New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania. Currently, more than 16 of New Jersey's largest and most successful hospitals own and serve on QualCare's Board of Directors.

The healthcare provider services over 800,000 members, with a clientele that spans health systems, unions, local governments, school boards, small to large businesses and some of New Jersey's largest corporations. With rate increases that are consistently below industry standards and unparalleled service satisfaction, QualCare is well positioned to succeed in the changing healthcare industry.

"We are very excited to host the Lt. Governor and have this opportunity to discuss the state of healthcare in New Jersey," said Annette Catino, Chief Executive Officer of QualCare, Inc. "Our organization is at the forefront of a changing landscape in healthcare and we continue to work with institutions – both public and private – to anticipate what lies ahead. We are happy that the Lt. Governor sees QualCare as a leader in this field."

There are currently more than 8.6 million women-owned businesses in the United States. As of 2013, the New Jersey/New York metropolitan area is home to approximately 663,200 women-owned firms – the largest in the nation. There are roughly 223,400 women-owned businesses in New Jersey, an increase of nearly 44 percent since 1997. The sales revenues of these businesses exceed \$43 million annually.

Businesses considering a move or in need of assistance are encouraged to call New Jersey's Business Action Center at (866) 534-7789 or visit the State's Business Portal at www.newjerseybusiness.gov.

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