



January 22, 2013

## Healthcare Services Group, Inc. Increases Fourth Quarter 2012 Cash Dividend

BENSALEM, PA -- (Marketwire) -- 01/22/13 -- Healthcare Services Group, Inc.'s (NASDAQ: HCSG) Board of Directors has declared a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.16625 per common share, payable on March 15, 2013 to shareholders of record at the close of business on February 22, 2013. This represents the 39th consecutive quarterly cash dividend payment, as well as the 38th consecutive increase since our initiation of quarterly cash dividend payments in 2003.

The Company's dividend policy is reviewed by the Board of Directors on a quarterly basis, taking into consideration, among other things, the impact of changing laws and regulations, including the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012. The Company expects to continue to pay a regular quarterly cash dividend based, in part, on its understanding of the aforementioned legislations' tax treatment of dividend income.

The Company intends to release results for the three months and year ended December 31, 2012 during the week of February 4, 2013. Following the release, they will hold a conference call to discuss the results.

### *Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements*

This release and any schedules incorporated by reference into it may contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act"), as amended, which are not historical facts but rather are based on current expectations, estimates and projections about our business and industry, our beliefs and assumptions. Words such as "believes," "anticipates," "plans," "expects," "will," "goal," and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. The inclusion of forward-looking statements should not be regarded as a representation by us that any of our plans will be achieved. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. Such forward-looking information is also subject to various risks and uncertainties. Such risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, risks arising from our providing services exclusively to the health care industry, primarily providers of long-term care; credit and collection risks associated with this industry; from having several significant clients who each individually contributed at least 3% with one as high as 7% to our total consolidated revenues in the twelve month period ended December 31, 2012; our claims experience related to workers' compensation and general liability insurance; the effects of changes in, or interpretations of laws and regulations governing the industry, our workforce and services provided, including state and local regulations pertaining to the taxability of our services; and the risk factors described in our Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission for the year ended December 31, 2011 in Part I thereof under "Government Regulation of Clients," "Competition" and "Service Agreements/Collections," and under Item 1A "Risk Factors". Many of our clients' revenues are highly contingent on Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement funding rates, which Congress and related agencies have affected through the enactment of a number of major laws and regulations during the past decade, including the March 2010 enactment of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010. On July 29, 2011, the United States Center for Medicare Services issued final rulings which, among other things, reduced Medicare payments to nursing centers by 11.1% and changed the reimbursement for the provision of group rehabilitation therapy services to Medicare beneficiaries. On January 2, 2013, President Obama signed into law the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012, which also addressed the provisions of the Budget Control Act of 2011. Under these provisions, the Act will reduce federal spending, potentially beginning in March 2013, if Congress and the Administration do not reach an agreement on means to reduce the national deficit by \$1.2 trillion split evenly between domestic and defense spending. Currently, the U.S. Congress is considering further changes or revising legislation relating to health care in the United States which, among other initiatives, may impose cost containment measures impacting our clients. These laws and proposed laws and forthcoming regulations have significantly altered, or threaten to significantly alter, overall government reimbursement funding rates and mechanisms. The overall effect of these laws and trends in the long-term care industry has affected and could adversely affect the liquidity of our clients, resulting in their inability to make payments to us on agreed-upon payment terms. These factors, in addition to delays in payments from clients, have resulted in, and could continue to result in, significant additional bad debts in the near future. Additionally, our operating results would be adversely affected if unexpected increases in the costs of labor and labor-related costs, materials, supplies and equipment used in performing services could not be passed on to our clients.

In addition, we believe that to improve our financial performance we must continue to obtain service agreements with new clients, provide new services to existing clients, achieve modest price increases on current service agreements with existing clients and maintain internal cost reduction strategies at our various operational levels. Furthermore, we believe that our ability to sustain the internal development of managerial personnel is an important factor impacting future operating results and successfully executing projected growth strategies.

Healthcare Services Group, Inc. is the largest national provider of professional housekeeping, laundry and dietary services to long-term care and related health care facilities.

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Source: Healthcare Services Group, Inc.

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