

## **Confluence Health Names New Chief Medical Officer**

**Wenatchee, WA:** Confluence Health announced today that Dr. James Murray has been selected as its new chief medical officer (CMO) after having been recommended for the role and confirmed by the Confluence Health Board last week.

Serving as the interim chief medical officer since late July 2023 after the departure of the previous CMO, Dr. Jason Lake, Dr. Jim Murray will now officially assume the CMO role. This important position within the healthcare system works to ensure that Confluence Health and the Wenatchee Valley Medical Group are delivering safe and effective healthcare according to the organization's mission to provide "Local care by and for our community" alongside operational and executive leadership and in cooperation with medical staff.

"Dr. Murray brings many years of experience to this position, not only in medicine and healthcare leadership, but in understanding our community and its needs," remarked Dr. Jennifer Jorgensen, president of the Wenatchee Valley Medical Group, the largest physician group affiliated with Confluence Health. "We excited to have him take on this important role."

Board certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine, Dr. Murray joined what would later become Confluence Health in 2005 as a hospitalist, having completed his residency in internal medicine at Grand Rapids Medical Education and Research in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and an internship in general surgery at Portsmouth Naval Hospital in Portsmouth, Virginia, after earning his medical degree from Loyola University. With interests in both critical care and medical education, Dr. Murray most recently served as the medical director for inpatient medicine and the core medical director for specialty and ancillary medicine for Confluence Health.

"I am in full support of the Confluence Health Board's selection and know that Dr. Murray's years of leadership experience and the respect he has earned among his colleagues will make him an excellent CMO," commented Dr. Andrew Jones, CEO of Confluence Health. "During his time as interim CMO, Dr. Murray has already ably stepped into the role and come rapidly up to speed on the challenges and opportunities we have. The executive leadership team has valued his input and insights and we want to congratulate and welcome him as he officially assumes the CMO role."

## About Confluence Health

Confluence Health serves the largest geographic region of any healthcare system in Washington State, covering over 12,000 square miles of Okanogan, Grant, Douglas, and Chelan counties. Confluence Health is one of only two locally-lead healthcare systems in the state with the purpose of maintaining availability and access to high-quality, cost-effective healthcare services for North Central Washington. The Confluence Health Board of Directors provides governance for Confluence Health and includes nine community board members and six physician board members.

## About the Wenatchee Valley Medical Group

Wenatchee Valley Medical Group serves North Central Washington as the largest physician group affiliated with Confluence Health. Its history began with the founding of the Wenatchee Valley Clinic (WVC) by three physicians in the 1940s, born from a vision of bringing high-quality, multispecialty, integrated healthcare to the Wenatchee Valley. Over the next 70 years, WVC grew to become Wenatchee Valley Medical Center (WVMC) a large healthcare system that provided care across its four-county region and included 300 physicians in roughly 50 primary care and specialty disciplines. In 2013, WVMC and Central Washington Hospital affiliated to form Confluence Health with the vision to continue to provide high level, comprehensive care locally.

## **For More Information**

Adam MacDonald, *Corporate Communications Program Manager* adam.macdonald@ConfluenceHealth.org

###