



News Release

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Dr. DeFreece accepts position as St. Mary's president

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb. — Dr. Dan DeFreece has accepted the position of president of CHI Health St. Mary's in Nebraska City. A board certified family physician on the St. Mary's medical staff and at Nebraska City Medical Clinic since 1996, Dr. DeFreece has been serving as St. Mary's interim president since May 2018.

"Dr. DeFreece's leadership ability as well as dedication to the Nebraska City community make him a perfect fit," said Deb Goldsmith, president of Regional Operations for CHI Health. His appointment takes effect immediately.

A native of Tecumseh, Dr. DeFreece received his undergraduate degree from Nebraska Wesleyan University in Lincoln, and his medical degree from the University of Kansas School of Medicine in Kansas City and Wichita. He completed a residency in family practice at the Lincoln Medical Education Foundation, and he is currently pursuing an MBA.

In addition to the American and Nebraska Medical Associations and Academies of Family Physicians, Dr. DeFreece is a member of the American Association for Physician Leaders and the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society. He and his wife Kay have three children: Jameson, Leah and Addison. In his free time, Dr. DeFreece enjoys traveling and outdoor activities with his family.

About CHI Health St. Mary's

CHI Health St. Mary's has served Nebraska City and the surrounding areas since 1927. Guided by its Catholic heritage of healing ministry, St. Mary's goal is to provide its friends and neighbors with compassionate, quality medical care close to the comforts of home. In the fall of 2014, St. Mary's opened the doors of a new, fully modernized facility. The new 110,000-square-foot campus is better equipped to meet the needs of the community with an increased capacity for specialty clinics and an integrated primary care clinic.

About CHI Health

CHI Health is a regional health network with a unified mission: nurturing the healing ministry of the Church while creating healthier communities. Headquartered in Omaha, the combined organization consists of 15 hospitals, two stand-alone behavioral health facilities, more than 150 employed physician practice locations and more than 11,000 employees in Nebraska and southwestern Iowa. In fiscal 2017, CHI Health invested more than \$191.4 million back into our communities, or 31.1 percent more than in fiscal 2016. The majority of those dollars went to caring for the poor and underserved. CHI Health is part of Catholic Health Initiatives (CHI), a national nonprofit health system based in Englewood, Colorado.

About Catholic Health Initiatives

Catholic Health Initiatives, a nonprofit, faith-based health system formed in 1996 through the consolidation of four Catholic health systems, expresses its mission each day by creating and nurturing healthy communities in the hundreds of sites across the nation where it provides care. One of the nation's largest nonprofit health systems, Englewood, Colorado-based CHI operates in 17 states and comprises 100 hospitals, including three academic health centers and major teaching hospitals as well as 30 critical-access facilities; community health-services organizations; accredited nursing colleges; home health agencies; living communities; and other facilities and services. With \$15.5 billion in revenue and approximately \$21.9 billion in assets in FY17, CHI provided more than \$2.1 billion in charity care community benefit, and the unpaid cost of government programs. For more information, please visit our website at CatholicHealthInitiatives.org.

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