

# NEWS RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Mercy Health – Cincinnati Announces Leadership Changes**

(CINCINNATI; April 19, 2016) – Mercy Health - Cincinnati, which provides advanced, quality, compassionate care in your neighborhood through its care network, announces that it has named Michael W. Garfield Chief Executive Officer and Senior Vice President, Cincinnati Region. The change is effective immediately.

Garfield assumes the role from John Starcher, whom parent organization Mercy Health named as its President and CEO last month.

Mercy Health – Cincinnati also announces that it named:

- David Fikse as Chief Operating Officer of the Cincinnati Region. Fikse will assume the role previously held by Garfield on Monday, May 9. Fikse reports to Garfield.
- Erin Fries, MD, as Chief Clinical Officer of the region. Fries' role is new. Fries reports to Garfield.
- Justin McGoldrick, MD, as Chief Medical Officer – Acute Care. McGoldrick reports to Fries.
- Cari Ogg, MD, as Chief Medical Officer of Mercy Health Physicians. Ogg's role is new. Ogg reports to Fries.

The leadership changes are intended to drive further integration between physician, clinical and operational leadership.

Prior to joining Mercy Health, Garfield was Division President at Health Management Associates, serving as Division 3 President providing leadership over its 13 hospital operations in Tennessee, Missouri, Kentucky and West Virginia. He has also held executive leadership roles with Community Health Systems, the second largest publically traded operator of general acute care hospitals in the U.S., and was CEO of four hospitals within HCA/HealthTrust, a privately-held, owner and operator of approximately 160 hospitals and 120 outpatient centers in 20 states and England. Garfield received a Bachelor of Arts in Economics and Business Administration from Furman University in Greenville, South Carolina, and a Masters of Healthcare Administration from Tulane University in New Orleans, Louisiana. He and his family, wife Karen and three rescue dogs, live in Hyde Park, Ohio. Garfield has been in a senior leadership role with Mercy Health – Cincinnati for 16 months and is familiar with the organization. With Mercy Health's emphasis on succession planning, he's also already strongly oriented to his expanded responsibilities as CEO.

As Chief Operating Officer, Fikse will oversee the operations of Mercy Health's five award-winning hospitals, four freestanding emergency departments and the cardiac, oncology and orthopaedic service lines. He joins Mercy Health from Community Health Systems, where he served most recently as vice president of operations for a division with 30 facilities, including 15 hospitals, in 10 states. Previously, he was vice president of operations for a division with 24 facilities, including 10 hospitals, in three states. He also served as Chief Executive Officer of ValleyCare Health System in Youngstown, Ohio and has held a number of executive leadership roles with leading health systems. Fikse received a Bachelor of Science degree in Health Planning and Administration from Pennsylvania State University in University Park,

Pennsylvania and a Masters of Business Administration degree from DePaul University in Chicago, Illinois.

Dr. Erin Fries has been serving as medical director for the accountable care organization, Mercy Health Select, as well as practicing family medicine. As regional chief clinical officer, she is responsible for providing physician executive leadership for the Cincinnati region's clinical enterprises (hospital medical staff involved with acute care delivery, Mercy Health Physicians and Mercy Health Select). In collaboration with COO Fikse, she will oversee overall mission, strategic leadership and the assurance of quality care delivery for those clinical enterprises as well as their integration. Dr. Fries will continue to see patients through the end of May 2016 in addition to serving as the Cincinnati region's CCO. She earned her medical degree from University of Cincinnati College of Medicine and completed her residency in family practice at Grant/Riverside Methodist Hospital in Columbus.

Dr. McGoldrick served previously as Mercy Health – Cincinnati's Chief Medical Officer. Dr. McGoldrick now serves as Chief Medical Officer – Acute Care. In his new role, in collaboration with market and hospital leaders, he will provide leadership for the Vice Presidents of Medical Affairs in Mercy Health's hospitals. Dr. McGoldrick earned his medical degree from Tulane University School of Medicine in New Orleans and completed his internship and residency in emergency medicine at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit.

Dr. Ogg practices general and laparoscopic surgery and was the medical director of Mercy Health Physicians – Cincinnati's surgical specialty service line. As the chief medical officer for Mercy Health Physicians, she provides clinical leadership for the group and works in close collaboration with MHP COO Courtney Seitz. Dr. Ogg supports clinical quality, provider engagement and care delivery processes for Mercy Health Physicians. She also will support the medical directors of each of our local Mercy Health Physicians' five service lines. Dr. Ogg will continue to care for patients on a limited basis as she fulfills her new role. Dr. Ogg earned her medical degree from Wright State University in Dayton and completed her residency in general surgery at The Jewish Hospital.

***Mercy Health - Cincinnati*** makes advanced, compassionate, quality healthcare easy to help you be well in mind, body and spirit. Mercy Health – Cincinnati has been serving Greater Cincinnati for more than 160 years and provides an integrated network of leading physicians, compassionate caregivers, comprehensive services and exceptional care at more than 180 locations across the region. The Mercy Health – Cincinnati network of care includes five award-winning hospitals, senior living communities, primary care and specialty physician practices, outpatient centers, social service agencies, fitness centers and a variety of outreach programs. Mercy Health - Cincinnati hospitals have earned national Truven Health Analytics' 100 Top Hospitals honors more times than all other Cincinnati hospitals combined, placing them among the best hospitals in the nation. Truven has also named Mercy Health - Cincinnati as one of the nation's Top 15 health systems three years in a row and is the only health system in Cincinnati to earn this honor. Mercy Health – Cincinnati is part of Mercy Health, the largest health system in Ohio and fourth largest employer. To learn more visit, [e-mercy.com](http://e-mercy.com) and engage in the conversation via Mercy Health - Cincinnati's social media channels (@mercy\_health on Twitter and Mercy Health on Facebook).

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