

## **Bob Baxter named President, CEO of Mercy Health – Toledo Region**

Mercy Health is pleased to announce the appointment of Bob Baxter as President and CEO for Mercy Health – Toledo, effective October 4. Mr. Baxter has been serving as the interim CEO since early June while also maintaining his role as President and CEO for Mercy Health – Lima.

While Mr. Baxter will continue serving as a dual role of President and CEO for both Mercy Health – Toledo and Lima Regions he will shift many of his daily leadership responsibilities in Lima to Dale Gisi, President of Mercy Health – St. Rita's, which allows him to spend a majority of his time in Toledo.

This dual role builds on strong synergies seen across the Toledo and Lima regions. The two regions, less than 90 minutes apart, share Life Flight and stroke care strategies, and have made significant clinical progress together. Just recently, it was announced that the Life Flight Transportation Network communication center will centralize into one, comprehensive center located in Lima. The structure also allows us to continue to leverage clinical expertise across regions.

"I am pleased and honored to lead and work with Mercy Health – Toledo Region employees and physicians to enhance our mission of improving the health of our community. I am confident in Mercy Health's strategy that we have developed to meet the changing healthcare needs of our community," Mr. Baxter said. "My goal is to empower our employees, leaders and physicians to always do what is best for the patient and to enhance our culture of service and quality for which Mercy Health is known."

Mr. Baxter joined Mercy Health in 2010. During his tenure in Lima, he has championed efforts to expand CarePATH locally; focused on open, transparent communication with providers and staff, and has taken steps to improve regional financial performance, helping to ensure long-term sustainability and quality patient care.

Prior to joining Mercy Health, Mr. Baxter served as Vice President of Operations and Chief Operating Officer at Rapid City Regional Medical Center in South Dakota. He received a master's degree in Business Administration and a Master of Art from the University of Iowa and is a fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives.

Mr. Baxter is also active in the Lima community and has served on several boards including Activate Allen County and Allen Economic Development Group as well as volunteers his time throughout the community including on the Business Advocacy Committee for the Shawnee Public Schools. He and his wife have four children.

"Bob's expertise in driving amazing patient care, operational excellence and employee engagement will help position Northwest Ohio for continued, ongoing success," said Brian Smith, Chief Operating Officer, Mercy Health. "His strong knowledge of the Northwest Ohio landscape will help to ensure continuity of services and enhancing access to care for all."

### **About Mercy Health – Toledo**

Mercy Health - Toledo is a member of Mercy Health, the largest health system in Ohio and the fourth largest employer in the state. Locally, Mercy Health is based in Toledo, Ohio and serves 20 counties in Northwest Ohio and Southeast Michigan. Mercy Health – Toledo provides comprehensive primary and critical care services to residents as well as a robust physician group, Mercy Health Physicians, Life Flight critical air transport services and Mercy College of Ohio.

Mercy Health - Toledo is proud to provide nearly \$110 million in community benefit in 2016 which includes charity care and community health services. With approximately 8,800 employees; 300 employed physicians; and 2,200 medical staff members, Mercy Health has been part of the Northwest Ohio community it serves for more than 162 years. Please visit [mercy.com](http://mercy.com) for additional information and connect with Mercy Health – Toledo on Facebook, Twitter @mercynwohio and Instagram.