



Media Contact:

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Vance named new president of CHI Health St. Elizabeth & CHI Health Nebraska Heart Hospital

Derek Vance brings enthusiasm and commitment to excellence at St. Elizabeth & Nebraska Heart

Lincoln, NE – Derek Vance, FACHE, officially begins tenure as president of CHI Health St. Elizabeth and Nebraska Heart.

Vance comes to CHI Health from Virginia, where he led a for-profit hospital for several years. He says he learned a lot in the for-profit world, but something was missing—a reverence and a respect for the spiritual side of healing. That is what led Vance to St. Elizabeth and Nebraska Heart.

“I have felt a great desire to return to a faith-based health system where clinical excellence and spirituality are integrated,” explains Vance. “I believe that is what CHI Health is all about, and I am inspired by the values of reverence, integrity, compassion and excellence.”

A graduate of Brigham Young University with a degree in management, Vance received a master’s in health administration from The Ohio State University. He is an accomplished CEO who sees the most important part of his job as driving a positive culture of high engagement. “Our staff needs to know that they are valued—that they are the “difference-makers.” I believe involving front-line staff in important discussions and decisions will serve as a powerful strategy for enhancing engagement,” Vance explained.

Vance had the opportunity to visit both St. Elizabeth and Nebraska Heart before arriving. He commented that when he walked into St. Elizabeth he felt immediately comfortable. He says he could sense the dedication to the community and to the patients. Touring Nebraska Heart, he felt a focus on excellence, “where physicians and staff work in lock-step, where everyone is clear on their purpose: the patient!”

Vance brings a new vision for St. Elizabeth and Nebraska Heart: A commitment to building relationships of trust, innovation, and the relentless pursuit of excellence. He comments that this vision is only achievable through employee and physician engagement.

“Of all the aspects of my job as a health care leader, the most important is driving a positive culture of high engagement - it’s also my favorite aspect of the job. I’ve done this successfully in other organizations and am so excited to have the responsibility for carrying it out at St. Elizabeth and Nebraska Heart!” shared Vance.

Vance began his tenure as president on November 14th. He is married with four children, and they are in the process of moving to Lincoln.

Media Opportunities:

- Interview with Derek Vance
- Photographs of Derek Vance

About CHI Health St. Elizabeth:

CHI Health St. Elizabeth, founded over 125 years ago, is a full-service, nonprofit medical center in Lincoln, Nebraska. Since 2004, St. Elizabeth has been recognized as a Magnet hospital for excellence in nursing. St. Elizabeth is guided by its core values of reverence, integrity, compassion and excellence to devote funding and resources to programs and services that benefit their patients as well as the health of the greater community. St. Elizabeth is part of CHI Health and Catholic Health Initiatives. For more information, visit www.CHIhealthStElizabeth.com.

About CHI Health Nebraska Heart Hospital:

Founded in 1987, the organization provides unparalleled state-of-the-art cardiac, vascular and thoracic care services. Annually performing more than 600 open-heart procedures, 1,500 interventions and more than 4,500 cardiac catheterizations, the organization continues to rank among the nation's leaders including one of Healthgrades 50 best hospitals for cardiac and vascular surgery in 2015 and receiving the highest national ranking for aortic valve replacement with heart bypass surgery by the Society of Thoracic Surgery. In addition to offices in North Platte, Grand Island, Hastings, Columbus, Kearney and Lincoln, the 25 cardiologists and seven surgeons with NHI visit more than 60 clinics throughout Nebraska, Iowa and Kansas. Services include consultative cardiology, nuclear cardiology, electrophysiology, cardiac catheterization, coronary intervention, structural heart and cardiothoracic and peripheral vascular surgery. Opened in 2003, CHI Health Nebraska Heart was the state's first heart-exclusive hospital, located in southeast Lincoln. The 63-bed, state-of-the-art facility includes three operating suites, three cardiac catheterization labs, a cardiac hybrid OR, vascular and electrophysiology labs and comprehensive imaging services. For more information, visit www.neheart.com.

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