CHI Franciscan Health appoints new chief operating officer

(TACOMA, Wash.) – CHI Franciscan Health has selected Ian G. Worden as its new chief operating officer. In his role, Worden will be responsible for directing the operations of acute care services, coordinating and integrating services, and ensuring the delivery of cost-effective care.

“Ian has more than 20 years of leadership experience in health care, directing clinical and financial operations of nonprofit, faith based health systems,” said Ketul J. Patel, chief executive officer, CHI Franciscan. “His proven track record to lead and succeed is a perfect fit for CHI Franciscan, as we advance our mission to be the premier health care provider in the Pacific Northwest.”

Most recently, Worden led St. Vincent Health System, a 23 hospital system in Indiana, as its executive vice president/chief operations officer. As the COO, of the largest health care system in Indiana, he drove the system from a financially struggling operation to the most profitable regional system in Ascension Health, the largest nonprofit health system in the U.S.

Worden joined St. Vincent in 2000 as its senior vice president-Finance/chief operating officer. From 1995 to 2000, he was chief financial officer at PeaceHealth in Eugene, Oregon.

“I’m excited to have the opportunity to return to the Pacific Northwest and join CHI Franciscan Health,” said Worden. “CHI Franciscan has a proud tradition of providing high quality and compassionate care to residents of the Puget Sound for more than one hundred years. I’m looking forward to working with all the exceptional physicians, leaders, and staff at CHI Franciscan as we embark on becoming the premier health care provider in the Pacific Northwest.”

Worden received his bachelor’s degree in psychology from Florida State University. He has a master’s in neuroscience, an MBA and a master’s in hospital administration from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. He will join CHI Franciscan Health on Oct. 19, and will serve on the system’s senior executive team.
About CHI Franciscan Health

CHI Franciscan Health is nonprofit health system based in Tacoma, WA with a team of more than 11,800 doctors, nurses and staff who provide expert, compassionate medical care at eight acute care hospitals and more than 100 primary and specialty care clinics in Pierce, King and Kitsap counties. This includes St. Anthony Hospital, Gig Harbor, one of the newest hospitals in the state; St. Clare Hospital, Lakewood; St. Elizabeth Hospital, Enumclaw, designated as a Critical Access Hospital; St. Francis Hospital, Federal Way; St. Joseph Medical Center, Tacoma, a tertiary referral center; Harrison Medical Center, Bremerton and Silverdale, offering the only dedicated orthopedic hospital on the Peninsula; Highline Medical Center, Burien; and Regional Hospital, a long-term acute care hospital located within Highline Medical Center. Started in 1891 by the Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia, today CHI Franciscan Health is one of the largest health systems in Washington state with more than 1,100 acute care beds, a credentialed medical staff of more than 1,500 including more than 550 employed physicians providing specialties in cardiovascular care, cancer services, orthopedics and sports medicine, neurosciences, women’s care, surgical weight loss and hospice and palliative care. More babies are born at CHI Franciscan Health hospitals than any other system in our service area and at St. Joseph, Level III neonatal intensive care is provided in collaboration with neonatologists from Seattle Children’s Hospital. Every year, more than 300,000 of our neighbors turn to our hospitals’ 24/7 emergency departments, including the Level II Trauma Center at St. Joseph. Recipient of numerous awards and accreditations for our institutions and services, CHI Franciscan Health’s mission is to create healthier communities, including caring for the poor and underserved. In 2015, we provided $141 million in community benefit, including $9.9 million in charity care. For more information, visit www.chifranciscan.org.