Mercy Health Network Welcomes
Mercy Iowa City to the Family

As of this week Mercy Iowa City’s 1,430 team members are now part of the Mercy Health Network family. Mercy Iowa City has 250 physicians representing all major medical specialties and most sub-specialties. Check out the website to learn more about Mercy Iowa City providers, facilities, clinics and services.

MHN CEO Dave Vellinga says, “Mercy Iowa City has long been recognized for its high quality and patient satisfaction scores and MHN is proud that Mercy Iowa City is now a Mercy Health Network affiliated hospital.”

Some of Mercy Iowa City’s recent awards include:

- In May, Mercy Iowa City was named to the 2017 edition of Becker’s Hospital Review 100 Great Community Hospitals list.
- In 2016 and 2017 Mercy Iowa City was awarded the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) 5 Star Rating as a Top 2% of all hospitals and the only hospital in Iowa to receive 5 stars.
- In 2017 Mercy, in partnership with Steindler Orthopedic Clinic, was recognized as the only hospital in the state of Iowa to receive Healthgrades® Orthopedic Surgery Excellence Award ™ and the Joint Replacement Excellence Award™
- Mercy is Johnson County’s only accredited Chest Pain Center and has received an American Hospital Association Gold Plus Achievement Award for Stroke Care.
- The Press Ganey Guardian of Excellence Award was given to Mercy’s Emergency Care Unit for achieving a 95th percentile for patient experience.
- In 2017 Mercy received The Center of Distinction Award from Healogics.

Be on the lookout for a mission activation event this fall which will be open to all MHN colleagues.

MHN New Hire – Terri Bellmore, Director of Payer Strategy

Terri Bellmore has been named Director of Payer Strategy for Mercy Health Network. She brings extensive industry experience as a health care executive with a variety of companies including Lumeris, Universal American, and Harvard Pilgrim Health Care. Most recently she was principal for clients at Absolute Healthcare Consulting where she specialized in population health including clinical integration, alternative payment arrangements and value based care models. As Director of Payer Strategy, Terri will advance the MHN value of financial stewardship by creating appropriate engagement with payers.

We are excited to have Terri as part of the Mercy Health Network team. Terri played a key role in negotiating a new contract with AmeriHealth Caritas. The success of the team’s efforts means that thousands of Iowans will continue to have access to MHN’s providers across the state.

Email for Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare Colleagues is Changing

Wheaton Iowa associates/providers have transitioned to new e-mail addresses. Wheaton Iowa associates within your address book will change from @wfhc.org to @mercyhealth.com. Emails sent to the @wfhc.org address must be retrieved by the associate/provider (they will not automatically transfer to their new email). New email addresses will be listed in the Trinity global email address book. Please update any distribution lists you maintain.
Mercy-Dubuque Earns National Recognition for Advertising and Marketing Excellence

Mercy Medical Center-Dubuque recently earned national recognition for its marketing efforts. The hospital received a total of three Aster Awards including two silver and one gold.

Mercy’s internal publication, The Pulse, and the Dubuque Mercy Health Foundation annual report Accolade, both won silver awards, while Mercy received a gold award for its AirCare 3 campaign.

“We’re honored to receive three Aster Awards this year,” said Matt Daughenbaugh, director of marketing and community relations. “It’s nice to have some of the country’s most creative individuals recognize our talented department and the great work they do to help the community understand our services and our Mission.”

Mercy-Sioux City Staff Provides Assistance with Children Who Survived Tanzanian Bus Crash

Through the generosity of Samaritan’s Purse, an international humanitarian aid organization, Mercy Medical Center–Sioux City is caring for three young survivors of a tragic bus crash in Tanzania. The accident happened on May 6th killing 36 people, 33 of them children.

The children arrived at Mercy Medical Center–Sioux City on May 15th. Mercy’s Dr. Steve Joyce and Dr. Lawrence Volz continue to oversee the patients’ medical and surgical needs along with surgeons Dr. Steve Meyer, Dr. Jeffry Dean, Dr. Daniel Kensinger and Dr. Quentin Durward. The last planned surgical treatment has been performed and all three children are responding well.

Tim Huber Appointed as Vice President/Chief Financial Officer at Wheaton Iowa

Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare-Iowa is pleased to announce Tim Huber has accepted the position of Vice President/Chief Financial Officer. He previously served as the Controller at Wheaton Iowa. Huber started with Wheaton Iowa in December 1987.

“Since joining Wheaton Iowa as the Reimbursement Accountant, I have had many opportunities to grow and contribute in a variety of leadership roles as the organization has grown into a regional leader in health care delivery and service,” said Mr. Huber. “I am excited to take on this new role and be a part of continuing Wheaton Iowa’s rich history of providing excellent health care.”

Mercy-Des Moines Opens The Comfort Health Center for Women

Mercy-Des Moines opened The Comfort Health Center for Women to patients in April. “The Center is designed to address a variety of women’s health issues, including breast care, pelvic health, menopause symptom management and mental health,” said Valerie Stratton, DO, NCMP, a physician at The Comfort Health Center for Women. “Plastic and reconstructive surgery consultations, physical therapy, medical imaging, health screening and assessments and complementary wellness service, including chiropractic care and massage therapy, are also offered.”

Our unique health screenings and assessments have been very popular,” added Leisha Barcus, director. “Appointments for our Midlife Health Assessment are being requested by over 50% of the women looking for support and specialized information about the various stages of menopause and one-third of our patients are taking advantage of our Fit 4 You Screening. Offering the convenience of four different health assessments in just one visit is really empowering women to take control of their health.”

The Center’s Fit 4 You Screening includes a heart and stroke risk assessment, cancer screenings including breast, skin, colon (either a assistance with scheduling a colonoscopy or stool testing, as indicated), a pelvic exam and pap smear per guidelines, and lung) along with individual preventive advice including immunizations, vitamin use or other age-appropriate recommendations.

The renovated facility has had a wonderful reception from patients. One patient said, “As I walked into the lovely, sunshine-filled entrance to the Comfort Health Center for Women, I was all smiles and beaming. I’m a cancer patient and that does not happen with most of my appointments. The name of the Center is just perfect... Comfort. The decor is soothing, calming and pleasant.”