

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Diana Brodeur, Vice President, Communications
dbrodeur01@jpshealth.org
817-702-1613

JPS Health Network Names New President and CEO

Current COO Dr. Karen Duncan Will Be Promoted to Top Role in January 2022

November 18, 2021; Fort Worth, Texas — The JPS Board of Managers is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Karen Duncan as the Administrator for the Tarrant County Hospital District, to serve in the role of President and Chief Executive Officer for JPS Health Network, effective January 1, 2022. The move follows outgoing president and CEO Robert Earley’s retirement announcement two weeks ago.

“It is a testament to the strength of JPS that we found the right person to lead the health network into the future within our own ranks,” said Dr. Charles Webber, chairman of the JPS Board of Managers. “Dr. Duncan has been a steadfast champion of providing our community with the care they need and deserve, and I look forward to her leadership.”

Duncan currently serves as the network’s Chief Operating Officer, and has been with JPS for five years. In that time, she has been responsible for transforming the community health network of medical homes and clinics, and most recently has steered the implementation of the JPS Future Plan, the bond-supported development of healthcare services and sites throughout the county.

“JPS is on the right track, and Dr. Duncan has been an integral part of that,” said Dorothy DeBose, incoming chair of the JPS Board of Managers. “We are fortunate to have a leader of her caliber ready to continue the great work we’ve already seen. We will work closely with her to design a succession plan for the organization that recognizes the current need for stability while continuing JPS’ growth.”

“I am both humbled and honored to serve as CEO of such a highly esteemed and accomplished healthcare system,” said Duncan. “JPS is well positioned to lead the transformation of healthcare delivery in Tarrant County and to improve lives within the many communities we serve. I look forward

to working alongside a committed Board, a strong executive and leadership team and an amazing JPS team.”

Just last week JPS Health Network received top marks for patient safety and quality measures from the Leapfrog Group, the latest in a growing list of accreditations and honors for network which include Best Hospital for America by *Washington Monthly* and the Lown Institute and Outstanding Healthcare System by D CEO Magazine.

About JPS Health Network:

The Tarrant County Hospital District, known as JPS Health Network, is a tax-supported organization serving the healthcare needs of families in Tarrant County. Home to Tarrant County’s only Level I Trauma Center, JPS provides adult inpatient care at John Peter Smith Hospital in Fort Worth, Texas and offers comprehensive services including primary care, behavioral health, and pharmacy at more than 25 community locations. JPS Health Network is governed by an 11-member Board of Managers, whose members are appointed by the Tarrant County Commissioners Court. JPS was named the Best Hospital for America by *Washington Monthly* magazine and the Lown Institute in 2020, and Outstanding Healthcare System by D CEO Magazine.

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