

PRESS RELEASE

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Western Healthcare Alliance Names Tom Northey as New Chief Innovation Officer

Collaborating to Improve Rural Healthcare

Grand Junction, CO, October 5, 2021 – Western Healthcare Alliance (WHA) is pleased to announce the hiring of Tom Northey as the new Chief Innovation Officer. Mr. Northey’s first day at WHA was October 4th.

As the Chief Innovation Officer, Mr. Northey will lead WHA’s Information Technology initiatives and provide leadership for WHA’s wholly owned company, Community Care Alliance (CCA). In this role, he is responsible for transformation initiatives, including the development and support of information strategies, data analytics, and value-based care solutions. With over 25 years’ experience in healthcare, Mr. Northey brings a wealth of knowledge in physician/clinic management and relationships, EMR implementation, telehealth, business development, strategic planning, sales, marketing, and more to the team.

Mr. Northey commented, “I’m excited to be back at WHA! I’m looking forward to applying my experience with healthcare at scale to help support the preservation of community-based, rural healthcare.”

Mr. Northey has a strong history with WHA and was the Director of IT Collaboration from 2012 – 2015 and then the Vice President of Information Strategy from 2015 – 2016. While at WHA, he was instrumental in the development of IT shared services, strategic interoperability, and analytics road mapping, as well as IT infrastructure for WHA members. Mr. Northey also played a critical role in the early formation of the CCA to help address population health management and develop value-based contracting initiatives.

“We are so pleased to welcome Tom back to WHA,” said WHA CEO, Angelina Salazar. “His in-depth knowledge of rural healthcare challenges and experience in developing innovative solutions will be invaluable as we continue to collaborate to improve rural healthcare in Colorado and Eastern Utah.”

Prior to rejoining the WHA team, Mr. Northey served as an operational consultant for Queens Health System in Hawaii. He also served as National Director, Telehealth Solution Consulting, Operations and Regional Communications for Kaiser Permanente. In this role he led a team to develop and deploy various telehealth tools to increase membership, perpetuate key contracts, and improve access for patients. Prior to joining WHA in 2012, Mr. Northey worked with the Colorado Regional Health Information Organization as their Outreach and Development Manager.

Mr. Northey holds a Master of Science degree in Management from Regis University and a Bachelor of Arts - Communication from Metropolitan State College.

Western Healthcare Alliance (WHA) began in 1989 when a small group of rural Colorado hospitals decided that there was power in numbers. Today, WHA celebrates over 30 years of collaboration with 32 healthcare members in Colorado and Utah. A subset of WHA members own Healthcare Management (HCM), a sister company of WHA, that provides revenue cycle solutions to healthcare entities. In 2015, WHA formed the Community Care Alliance to provide a population health infrastructure for rural hospital and provider communities to learn and succeed in the new healthcare environment. Developing and managing a menu of member-owned and partner programs, WHA saves members money that helps them remain sustainable and viable in their communities.

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