



For Immediate Release

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Valley Regional Healthcare Names Deanna Howard Interim CEO

Claremont, NH – It is with great pleasure that Valley Regional Healthcare announces Deanna Howard as interim President & CEO, effective February 18, 2019. Ms. Howard, a resident of Etna, most recently was the Vice President of Regional Development for Dartmouth-Hitchcock in Lebanon, and is currently providing healthcare consulting services. Additionally, Ms. Howard is the past Chairman of the New Hampshire Hospital Association, and is a current member of the Board of Trustees of Mt. Ascutney Hospital, Crotched Mountain Foundation and the Society for the Protection of NH Forests. She is the former Chief Executive Officer of Upper Connecticut Valley Hospital in Colebrook.

"I'm very excited about providing interim leadership services at Valley," said Howard. I have worked with Valley Regional Healthcare staff during my employment with Dartmouth-Hitchcock, and served on the Valley Board of Trustees for several years. This is an exciting time at Valley Regional, and I look forward to joining the team."

Ms. Howard was appointed after current President & CEO Peter J. Wright, FACHE, announced his resignation. Wright will remain with Valley until March 8, 2019.

"Deanna Howard has the experience and wealth of knowledge the Board was looking for in choosing the right Interim President & CEO, and she will execute a smooth leadership transition at Valley Regional Healthcare," said Patti Putnam, Chair of Valley Regional Board of Trustees.

Howard's focus at Valley Regional will be to utilize her wealth of knowledge to improve hospital operations, explore growth opportunities, and collaborate with colleagues and providers to advance the hospital.

A search for a permanent President & CEO is currently underway.

Valley Regional Healthcare

Valley Regional Healthcare provides essential healthcare services to our region through our critical-access hospital, and primary and specialty care clinics. For 125 years, our hospital has adapted to serve the many and diverse health care needs of the region. We serve families and individuals in the Sullivan County region to help them stay healthy and thriving. For more information about Valley Regional Healthcare and its services, visit www.VRH.org.