



PARTNERS IN
EXCELLENCE



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

PULLMAN REGIONAL HOSPITAL AND WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") is made and entered into by and between Whitman County Public Hospital District 1A dba as Pullman Regional Hospital ("Hospital"), and Washington State University, an institution of higher education and agency of the State of Washington ("WSU" or "University"). Each may be referred to individually as a "Party" or jointly as the "Parties."

1. RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Hospital exists to nurture and facilitate a healthier quality of life for its community; and

WHEREAS, the Hospital provides an array of treatment and prevention services and programs that are at the forefront of the medical industry and designed to provide the most comprehensive benefits to its patients; and

WHEREAS, WSU is a public research university committed to its land-grant heritage and tradition of service to society; and

WHEREAS, one of WSU's missions is to extend knowledge through innovative educational programs, which includes the following health sciences programs: medicine, nursing, pharmacy, health policy and administration, nutrition and exercise physiology, and speech and hearing sciences; and

WHEREAS, the Parties have overlapping missions and share interrelated goals dedicated to the improvement of the health and well-being of individuals and populations, including the exploration of innovative models of healthcare delivery and education; and

WHEREAS, the Parties currently participate in a variety of collaborative activities and desire to build upon their existing relationship and further explore mutually-beneficial opportunities aligned with their respective missions and goals;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing, the Parties hereby declare their intent to promote closer collaborations between the Parties for the purposes set forth herein. Although the Parties do not intend to enter into a partnership under Washington state law, this collaborative effort will hereby be known as "Partners in Excellence."

2. PURPOSE

This purpose of this MOU is to provide a foundation and framework for increased collaboration, cooperation, and interaction between the Parties. The Hospital and the University are each uniquely positioned within the community to promote and advance high standards of health, medical care, counseling and psychological services, innovative programs, and healthcare education and training. Working together, the Parties desire to leverage their respective strengths and expertise to better fulfill their shared interests in delivering expert healthcare services and a high quality of life to the communities they serve.

3. AREAS OF COLLABORATION

The following include, but are not limited to, areas where the Parties share mutual interests and will enhance current collaborations and explore further opportunities:

Health and Wellness Support and Education – The Parties share a commitment to build healthier, more secure futures for individuals and communities through their health and wellness programs and services. The Parties desire to generate positive health outcomes to benefit WSU's students and the local community by identifying opportunities to mobilize resources and share expertise in areas including, but not limited to, mental health and suicide prevention, nutrition and healthy eating, stress reduction, substance abuse, and violence prevention.

Human Resources / Employee Recruitment and Retention – As major employers in the Pullman community, the Parties are in significant leadership positions to provide individuals with a sustainable livelihood and to help the Parties and the community, as a whole, meet their workforce needs. The Parties will consider ways in which they can better coordinate and promote employment opportunities between the two organizations.

Advancement through Community and Alumni Engagement – The Parties' engagement with its supporters, including the University's alumni, plays an important role in the advancement of both organizations and, ultimately, community health and wellbeing. The Parties agree that joint fundraising efforts, through engagement activities and events, can facilitate important connections and introductions, promote valuable collaborations and coordination on projects, and leverage expertise and funding in ways that are mutually beneficial to both Parties. The Parties intend to jointly pursue such activities, when feasible, to advance their fundraising goals.

Workforce Training / Clinical Affiliation Agreements – WSU’s medical education and other health sciences programs educate trained professionals for the state’s workforce and conduct research to advance patient care. The Hospital has clinical experiences and training to provide the experiential learning environment for the University’s students who are enrolled in medical and other health sciences degree programs and for residents who have earned a WSU medical degree. The Parties intend to continue to collaborate to provide experiential training and mentoring and to enhance their efforts to include opportunities for students from all of the University’s health sciences programs.

Innovation and the Future of Healthcare – The Parties recognize the challenges presented by a rapidly changing healthcare landscape. And, both Parties are preparing for these challenges—the Hospital through its Center for Learning & Innovation and the University through its Health Sciences Colleges: the Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine, the College of Nursing, and the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. Both are developing innovative ways to transform the delivery of patient care, educate future generations of healthcare professionals and leaders, and ensure that graduates receive continued education and career development. The Parties will explore ways in which they can build a closer working relationship to strengthen their efforts through cooperative projects and activities, the exchange of scholarly ideas and shared insights, and collaborative proposals and joint initiatives.

4. NON-BINDING NATURE

This MOU is intended only to set forth the general understanding of the Parties with respect to the subject matter herein, and does not, and is not intended to, contractually bind the Parties. It is envisioned, however, that that Parties may set forth in writing the details of any specific arrangements to be conducted, as a contract between the Parties.

5. DURATION, TERMINATION

The Parties shall cooperate under this MOU for an initial period of five (5) years, which may be extended by the mutual written consent of the Parties. This MOU may be terminated by either Party without liability at any time for any reason. Any modification shall require the written approval of the authorized representatives of the Parties.

6. RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES

In the event that a dispute arises under this MOU, the Parties shall make every effort to resolve it themselves. Should the Parties enter future contracts contemplated by this MOU, such contracts will contain a detailed resolution process.

7. STEERING COMMITTEE

The Parties agree that regular communication and coordination of shared activities will be essential to realize the full benefits of this MOU. To this end, the Parties will organize an MOU Steering Committee comprised of equal representation from each Party. The Steering Committee will meet as needed, but not less than twice per calendar year.

8. CONTACT PERSONS

The contact persons for all communications regarding this MOU shall be:

HOSPITAL:

Scott K. Adams, Chief Executive Officer
Pullman Regional Hospital
835 SE Bishop Boulevard
Pullman, WA 99163
Phone: 509-336-7406

UNIVERSITY:

Stacy Pearson, Vice President for Finance and Administration
Washington State University
P.O. Box 641045
Pullman, WA 99164-1045
Phone: 509-335-5524

9. SIGNATURES

The Parties affirm the individuals signing this MOU have been granted the authority to do so.

PULLMAN REGIONAL HOSPITAL

Signature: 
Name: Scott K. Adams
Title: Chief Executive Officer
Date: 11/8/18

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

Signature: 
Name: Kirk H. Schulz
Title: President
Date: 11/8/18