



NEWS RELEASE

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CHW Appoints Robert L. Wiebe, MD, as Chief Medical Officer

Veterans Health Administration Executive Joins Largest Hospital Provider in California

SAN FRANCISCO – March 24, 2008 – Catholic Healthcare West (CHW), the nation's eighth largest hospital system, today announced Robert L. Wiebe, MD, MPH, MBA, is joining CHW as senior vice president/chief medical officer. Dr. Wiebe will lead all clinical and patient care services throughout the organization's 41 hospitals across California, Arizona and Nevada.

"We are excited to have Dr. Wiebe join CHW," says Lloyd H. Dean, CHW president/chief executive officer. "His immense leadership experience, entrepreneurial spirit and passion for excellence will further build on our mission of delivering excellent care to the people and communities we serve."

Dr. Wiebe will lead CHW's organization-wide clinical and patient care efforts, including quality, patient safety, patient satisfaction, risk services and physician leadership development. Additionally, he will oversee CHW's home health services and be instrumental in the full implementation of CHW's clinical information systems. Dr. Wiebe will begin his new role at CHW's corporate offices in San Francisco in mid-May.

"I have dedicated my professional life to improving patient healthcare outcomes," says Dr. Wiebe. "I was attracted to CHW because of its relentless pursuit of quality and patient safety. I look forward to joining an outstanding leadership team and furthering the ministry of CHW."

Dr. Wiebe joins CHW from his recent post as Director of the Veterans Integrated Service Network 21 in San Francisco, reporting to the Deputy Undersecretary of Health for the Veterans Health Administration (VHA), an agency of the US Department of Veterans Affairs. The network includes six major healthcare systems in California, Nevada, Hawaii and the Pacific Region, including the Philippines, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands. Under his leadership, Network 21 achieved status as VHA's highest ranked network in overall performance based on an aggregation of quality, access, patient satisfaction and business metrics. Dr. Wiebe has held leadership positions within the VHA for more than 22 years.

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Dr. Wiebe received his bachelor of arts in mathematics, *summa cum laude*, and his doctor of medicine at the University of Missouri at Columbia. He earned a master in public health at the University of California, Berkeley School of Public Health, and an MBA at Stanford University's Graduate School of Business. He is certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine and is licensed to practice medicine in California and Nevada.

Dr. Wiebe resides with his wife, Joni Rubin, and their daughter, Claire, in Davis, California.

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About Catholic Healthcare West

Catholic Healthcare West (CHW) is the eighth largest hospital system in the nation and the largest not-for-profit hospital provider in California. Founded in 1986, the CHW network of more than 9,500 physicians and approximately 50,000 employees serve a population spanning 22 million people at 41 hospitals across California, Arizona, and Nevada. CHW is committed to delivering compassionate, high-quality, affordable healthcare services with special attention to the poor and underserved. In 2007, CHW provided \$922 million in charity care, community benefits, and unreimbursed patient care. For more information, please visit our website at www.chwHEALTH.org.