

Mar. 16, 2022

## All staff message from Rebeca Fox announcing North Star Kidney Care, our joint venture with Satellite Healthcare

I'm writing today to share with you some news about an exciting opportunity for Northwest Kidney Centers to expand its leadership in the care of those impacted by kidney disease. This morning, we announced a joint venture with California-based Satellite Healthcare, Inc. called North Star Kidney Care LLC.

This collaborative, strategic partnership will allow Northwest Kidney Centers to pursue growth opportunities in the broader Pacific Northwest such as our home program and acute care. It will also allow us to explore value-based care models that will enable us to improve patient health outcomes.

It's important to emphasize that this new partnership will not change Northwest Kidney Centers mission, our commitment to excellence or our not-for-profit status. No programs or services will be cut. The day-to-day operations at our 20 Puget Sound clinics and our level of patient care will not be affected. This is not a merger nor is Northwest Kidney Centers being sold. A joint venture is simply a way to allow our two organizations to pool resources to accomplish specific growth strategies.

When we laid out our strategic priorities, we had envisioned creating meaningful impact that reached beyond our current scope. Aligning ourselves with a partner who shares our mission and values will help us achieve this aspiration. I believe we have found that partner in Satellite. If you are not familiar with Satellite, I encourage you to learn more about this nearly <u>50-year-old nonprofit</u> that currently serves more than 8,300 patients in 90 centers across seven states.

I invite you to join me and other members of the executive team on Tuesday, March 22 at 2 p.m. for a town hall where we will share more about this exciting new chapter. You can also find more information about the announcement on our <u>website</u>.

This is truly a monumental moment in our organization's journey, and I couldn't be more thankful to have each of you by my side.

Sincerely,

Rebecca