



For Immediate Release

Contact:

Karen Onderdonk

Chief Branding Officer

St. Vincent Hospital

[konderdonk@svghd.org](mailto:konderdonk@svghd.org)

719-486-7135

### **St. Vincent Hospital CEO Gary Campbell to retire in 2021**

*Dynamic leader of SVH submits nine-month notice*

LEADVILLE, COLO. (July 23, 2020) – Gary Campbell, Chief Executive Officer of St. Vincent General Hospital District (SVGHD), announced his resignation effective April 30, 2021 at the July 22 meeting of the Board of Directors. Administrator since 2016, Campbell is credited with leading the organization’s financial turnaround that resulted in the visioning of the district’s new \$23 million hospital, now under construction.

“We have made unprecedented progress under Gary’s leadership, and I speak for the entire board when I say we’re abundantly grateful to him,” says Aleta Bezzic, St. Vincent General Hospital District (SVGHD) board chair. “He leaves big shoes to fill; he’s also set St. Vincent up for sustainable success long into the future.”

By May 2021, the new hospital will be open and new medical services will be established in Leadville, including surgical services and expanded specialist services. A seamless continuity plan is of utmost importance to the board of directors, Campbell and Lake County stakeholders. The hospital human resources department and SVGHD Board will begin preparing the search for a new CEO right away. As final candidates are identified, community members will have the opportunity to meet them.

Upon retiring, Campbell hopes to split his time between Lake County and Tampa Bay Florida. “I am so thankful for Leadville and Twin Lakes and how they’ve embraced me. It has been my honor to serve our team, the hospital district and this community.”

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## **About St Vincent Hospital**

At 10,152 feet elevation in Colorado's Rocky Mountains, St. Vincent Hospital serves Lake County and North America's highest city of Leadville. In 1879 the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth, Kansas opened Leadville's hospital to care for the hardscrabble miners that were drawn to the community. St. Vincent Hospital continues the tradition of caring for the residents and visitors of Lake County and surrounding areas. The St. Vincent General Hospital District broke ground a new state-of-the-art replacement hospital in 2019. The new hospital is scheduled to open its doors in early 2021 and brings a new day in healthcare to Lake County. Learn more at [www.LeadvilleHospital.org](http://www.LeadvilleHospital.org).

## **About Gary Campbell**

Gary Campbell joined St. Vincent General Hospital District (SVGHD) in 2016. Upon his arrival in Leadville, it was clear that a financial turnaround was necessary to sustain this rural hospital and keep the doors open. Campbell and his team delivered on that turnaround and today, SVGHD is financially viable and building a new hospital to serve Lake County, Colorado. The new hospital is scheduled to open in early 2021. Under Campbell's direction, St. Vincent Hospital has become accredited by DNV GL - Healthcare and was named Colorado Special District of the year in 2018.

Gary Campbell has more than 30 years of progressive leadership experience in hospital operations, nursing management and health care administration. His previous positions include regional Chief Nursing Officer for SCL Community Hospitals and several senior executive positions with Kaiser Permanente District of Columbia and Suburban Maryland.

"Healthcare is ever-changing," says Gary. "This team understands the unique opportunities and challenges of operating a hospital in a mountain setting, and they are positioned for the ongoing work of adding services and eliminating barriers to healthcare access in Lake County."

In retirement, Gary plans to spend at least some of his time on the slopes at Ski Cooper, as he splits his time between Lake County and Tampa Bay. My goal is to remain active with snow and water sports for my entire life," he says. "Nothing makes me smile bigger than talking to a skier in their 70s or 80s who is still ripping it up. It gives me hope that I might be lucky enough to do the same."