

Kaiser Permanente Welcomes New Regional Chief Nurse Executive for Northern California

Oakland, CA, May 23, 2019 – Kaiser Permanente, the nation's largest integrated health system, announced today that Ann Williamson, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, has been named regional chief nurse executive and vice president for Kaiser Permanente Northern California.

In her new role, Williamson will lead one of the largest nursing organizations in Northern California serving more than four million members. Williamson will serve as a member of the regional Kaiser Foundation Hospitals and Health Plan Executive Leadership Team and report to Janet Liang, president of Kaiser Permanente Northern California. She will also serve under Linda Knodel, senior vice president and national chief nurse executive, National Patient Care Services.

“Our nurses deliver compassionate, exceptional care and have a tremendous impact on the way our members experience us each and every day,” said Janet Liang, president of Kaiser Permanente’s Northern California Region. “Ann’s experience, leadership and passion for delivering safe, high-quality health care made her the right person as we continue to advance excellence in nursing services to our patients and build upon our already outstanding nursing organization.”

Williamson brings a remarkable 40-year career in nursing and healthcare operations leadership which has spanned the globe, beginning in North Carolina and taking her to healthcare organizations, including UCSF Medical Center, University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics and Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

At Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi, Ann served as Chief Clinical and Nursing Officer for the Cleveland Clinic’s new 364 bed multi-specialty academic medical center. Williamson served on the senior executive team that successfully opened the medical center. She led the exponential growth of nursing, pharmacy and the entire allied health workforce, including bringing the first advanced practice providers to the UAE.

Prior to Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi, Ann served as Chief Nursing Officer at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics for six years, where she oversaw nursing services and patient care in this Magnet® designated organization. During her time there, she implemented numerous strategies to elevate academic and clinical preparation of the nursing workforce, tripled support for RN-to-BSN education, created a nationally accredited new graduate nurse residency program and jointly established dedicated education units with the University of Iowa College of Nursing.

During her 16-year tenure at UCSF, Williamson brought her passion and expertise to several leadership roles including Manager of the Emergency Department, Director of Nursing Education and Research, Joint Commission Coordinator, Director of Adult Services and Interim Chief Nurse.

Williamson was the recipient of the UCSF Chancellor's Award for Exceptional University Management and Cleveland Clinic's Nursing Institute Lifetime Achievement Award. She earned her BSN at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, her MSN from the University of Texas, Austin and her PhD in nursing informatics and health systems at UCSF.

About Kaiser Permanente

Kaiser Permanente is committed to helping shape the future of health care. We are recognized as one of America's leading health care providers and not-for-profit health plans. Founded in 1945, Kaiser Permanente has a mission to provide high-quality, affordable health care services and to improve the health of our members and the communities we serve. We currently serve 12.3 million members in eight states and the District of Columbia. Care for members and patients is focused on their total health and guided by their personal Permanente Medical Group physicians, specialists and team of caregivers. Our expert and caring medical teams are empowered and supported by industry-leading technology advances and tools for health promotion, disease prevention, state-of-the-art care delivery and world-class chronic disease management. Kaiser Permanente is dedicated to care innovations, clinical research, health education and the support of community health. <https://about.kaiserpermanente.org/>