

EEH, NorthShore announce merger plans



Edward-Elmhurst Health (EEH) and NorthShore University HealthSystem (NorthShore) have announced their intention to create a new parent health system and are finalizing plans to merge.

The foundation of the merger is rooted in the belief that by working together, both organizations will extend their focus on community-connected, expert care while serving as a best place to work, learn, practice medicine and receive care.

“NorthShore and EEH share a vision of delivering expanded access to a transformative, differentiated patient care experience,” remarked J.P. Gallagher, President and CEO of NorthShore. “By working together, we will connect patients and communities to personalized care, advanced clinical solutions and innovative technologies through improved access, expertise and services.”

Building upon a long legacy of connection to their communities, both EEH and NorthShore have also announced the creation of two community investment funds, with each organization committing \$100 million to their respective communities. These funds will each generate millions of dollars of annual interest that will be used to make a direct impact. The funds will be used to support partnerships with organizations working to enhance community health equity and well-being and advance local economic growth.

When the merger is complete, the combined organization will include 25,000 team members, serve an area with over 4.2 million residents and bring together the collaborative expertise of more than 6,000 best-in-class physicians through an expansive geographic network of nine hospitals and more than 300 ambulatory facilities throughout the region.

“The last year has been one of significant challenge for health systems across the country. It is only because of all of you – your expertise, your compassion and your commitment – that we are so well-positioned to take this important step forward,” said Mary Lou Mastro. “We are connected by a common purpose and passion for healthcare that makes us strong and resilient. I know, without a doubt, you’ll embrace this new opportunity.”

Both organizations will benefit from shared resources and expertise. Together, they are poised for growth in several highly ranked services such as orthopedics, cardiology, obstetrics, and behavioral

health. With a broader clinical network, care will be available when and where patients need it, seamlessly connected throughout the system.

The relationships EEH has developed with outstanding physicians will remain. Quite simply, a partnership would be out of the question if it wasn't in the best interest of EEH's physician group. NorthShore leadership has the utmost respect for EEH's successes and philosophies. The goal is to grow together.

Patients can expect the same level of care they currently receive, with physicians they know and trust, with the benefit of expanded access to specialists over time. The focus on patient care has been and will continue to be unwavering – care that represents top-tier quality and a patient experience that is safe, seamless and personal.

NorthShore and Edward-Elmhurst Health expect to close the transaction later this year, pending regulatory review and approval. The new organization, comprised of two regions – NorthShore and Edward-Elmhurst – will be led by J.P. Gallagher as President and CEO and governed by a single board of directors with representation from NorthShore, Edward-Elmhurst, Swedish Hospital and Northwest Community Hospital board members. Mary Lou Mastro will join the executive team of the new organization, maintaining leadership as CEO of the Edward-Elmhurst region.

[Learn more](#) about this exciting announcement.