



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Community Health Leaders Collaborate to Enhance Region's Health Care

KOOTENAI CO., ID – Panhandle Health District, Kootenai Health and Heritage Health have announced a joint project called Idaho Health Partners. Through Idaho Health Partners, the three organizations are working together to enhance and expand access to health care for the people in northern Idaho. The partnership is designed to connect patients with primary care providers and community resources.

The partnership will officially launch with the opening of a Heritage Health clinic in Post Falls. Starting July 1, the clinic will offer primary care through a Kootenai Health and Heritage Health partnership as well as expanded services including WIC benefits from Panhandle Health District.

“The Idaho Health Partnership will provide the most comprehensive care model in the region,” said Lora Whalen, Panhandle Health District’s Director. “Each of these health entities plays an integral role in improving the health care delivery system in northern Idaho. The partners share patient-centered values and provide quality, affordable health care to everyone.”

Idaho Health Partners will also increase data sharing between entities. This will improve local health assessments and make it easier to connect people in need with public health programs.

“We are excited about our new partnership,” said Casey Meza, executive director of regional health services at Kootenai Health. “While Kootenai Health, Heritage Health and Panhandle Health District have worked closely for decades, Idaho Health Partners will allow a truly comprehensive approach to accessing care.”

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“Together, our organizations can leverage our resources to make health care more available and more affordable in our community,” said Mike Baker, CEO of Heritage Health.

Panhandle Health District, Kootenai Health and Heritage Health serve over 200,000 patients and residents in northern Idaho annually.

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