

For Immediate Release

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**HEALTHCARE VALUE
NETWORK**



Learn. Share. Connect.

HEALTHCARE VALUE NETWORK ANNOUNCES TWO NEW MEMBERS

Appleton, Wis. (Aug. 1, 2013) — The Healthcare Value Network (HVN) is pleased to announce its newest members, Lee Memorial Health System (LMHS), located in Southwest Florida, and Spectrum Health, based in Grand Rapids, Mich. The network unites healthcare leaders who share a commitment to providing high-quality, cost-effective care through the application of lean concepts.

“We are excited by the addition of these two members,” said Mike Stoecklein, director of the network. “We are happy to have more and more health systems get involved at this level, and hope they can learn and grow through our peer-to-peer network.”

HVN members benefit from:

- Intensive site visits, known as gemba, at their colleagues’ facilities.
- Access to standard work templates, articles, webinars and videos, including exclusive member resources.
- The network’s proven assessment methodology to gauge progress on their lean journeys.
- Peer-to-peer discussions, relationships and learning opportunities through affinity groups on special topics and other methods.

“LMHS is deepening its commitment to lean value-creating principles as financial challenges intensify in the health industry,” said Roger Chen, vice president of organization transformation for LMHS. “Joining the Healthcare Value Network will help us with those efforts because it’s an effective way to connect with other health systems that are on the same journey. We look forward to hearing what lessons they have learned along the way and sharing our successes with them so they can learn from us as well.”

That sentiment is shared by leaders at Spectrum Health. “We are proud to be the newest member of the Healthcare Value Network,” said Kurt Knoth, vice president of performance improvement at Spectrum Health. “We are committed to delivering an exceptional experience to our customers that is safe, coordinated and efficient. To achieve this goal, we have embarked on a journey of continuous improvement and look forward to learning from the many health systems that form the Healthcare Value Network. Our goal is to be the national benchmark for process improvement in healthcare by 2020, and we look forward to sharing our lessons learned with our new team members.”

Established in 2009, the network was founded by the ThedaCare Center for Healthcare Value and the Lean Enterprise Institute. It is now an integral part of the Center and its healthcare mission.

ThedaCare Center for Healthcare Value

The ThedaCare Center for Healthcare Value is transforming the healthcare industry to deliver higher value through experiments, collaboration and education that integrate three interdependent components: delivery, transparency and payment. In these areas, the Center spreads learning and accelerates improvement. Learn more at: www.createvalue.org.

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Lee Memorial Health System

Open since 1916, Lee Memorial Health System is the fifth largest public health system in the United States and the largest community-owned health system in Southwest Florida. With more than 10,000 employees, the system is made up of four acute care hospitals and two specialty hospitals, as well as outpatient centers, walk-in medical centers, and primary care and specialty physician offices. An award-winning healthcare system, it provides regional programs, such as its Trauma Center and Golisano Children’s Hospital, which serve community members from Tampa to Miami.

Spectrum Health

Spectrum Health is headquartered in Grand Rapids, Mich., and offers a full continuum of care through the Spectrum Health Hospital Group, which is comprised of nine hospitals, 130 ambulatory and service sites, the Spectrum Health Medical Group and West Michigan Heart, physician groups totaling 751 providers, and Priority Health, a health plan with 600,000 members. Spectrum Health is West Michigan’s largest employer with 19,100 employees.