



Media Contact: Marissa Conrad

Cell: (612) 708-3101

[mconrad@phcinc.net](mailto:mconrad@phcinc.net)

For immediate release

### **Primary Health Care CEO Kelly Huntsman Announces Retirement**

**Des Moines, IA** — [September 16, 2024] — Kelly Huntsman, Chief Executive Officer at Primary Health Care has announced her decision to retire in January 2025 after 36 years with the organization. As CEO for the last 24 years, Huntsman led the community health center through transformative growth and navigated the complexities accompanying an ever changing healthcare landscape.

“The board applauds the incredible example Kelly has set as a leader and is grateful for her years of dedication to PHC patients, staff, and the communities we serve,” said Benjamin Bellus, chair of PHC’s Board of Directors. “Her leadership talents are highlighted in the boardroom, in her approach to organizational challenges, and perhaps most importantly, in the hearts and minds of her staff,” he added.

The Board has launched a search for Huntsman’s successor. “We are keenly aware of the importance of this role and are focused on identifying the right person to build on the success PHC has achieved under Kelly’s leadership,” said Bellus.

Huntsman’s accomplishments while at PHC include working to ensure access to healthcare for thousands of under resourced central Iowans, leading the transition to managed care and privatized Medicaid, guiding the fusion of PHC and The AIDS Project of Central Iowa, implementing Iowa’s only teaching health center graduate medical education program, and leading PHC through the many challenges presented by the pandemic.

Please join us at the [Bridging Gaps in Care](#) cocktail reception on October 10, 2024 at the Stine Barn in West Des Moines, to wish Kelly well in her retirement and celebrate her contributions to our community.

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[Primary Health Care](#), Inc. (PHC) is a community health center serving 40,000+ people in central Iowa. PHC provides medical, dental and behavioral health care to vulnerable and under-resourced populations. Pharmacy, homeless support services team, STI/HIV prevention, care and treatment program round out PHC programs. PHC is a team of caring professionals providing health care and supportive services to all people, to improve their quality of life.