

For Immediate Release

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Fall River, MA – The Board of Directors and Leadership Team of HealthFirst Family Care Center, Inc. are pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Eric R. Vaught to the position of Chief Medical Officer. Dr. Vaught earned his Doctor of Osteopathic (D.O.) Medicine degree from Kansas City University. In addition, he holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Exercise and Sports Science from Oregon State University, a Master of Public Health degree from the University of West Florida, and a Master of Business Administration degree in Healthcare Leadership from Rockhurst University.

Dr. Vaught, Board Certified by the American Board of Family Medicine and a Fellow in the American Academy of Family Practice served for 12 years in the United States Navy prior to starting at Health First. He brings a unique combination of medical and health center management experience to HealthFirst and its staff, as well as the patients and communities served.

Said Dr. Vaught, “I’m thankful for the opportunity to start this new chapter in my professional life in an organization that truly values its employees and its patients in the community. The COVID-19 pandemic has re-enforced the critical role that community health centers play in the communities we serve and I am happy to now be a part of this team of dedicated professionals here at HealthFirst Family Care Center.”

Julie M. Almond, Chief Executive Office, added her thoughts regarding Dr. Vaught’s role at Healthfirst by saying, “We are truly excited and grateful that Dr. Vaught has joined HealthFirst’s Leadership Team. We look forward to strategizing with him about our continued growth in the provision of quality care to the diverse community we so proudly serve.”

About HealthFirst Family Care Center

Our Mission: HealthFirst is proud to provide the highest quality health care to everyone in our diverse community.

Our History: We began as a Model Cities Program in 1971 in response to a need for accessible medical and dental care expressed by residents. The City of Fall River provided strong support for this program, and its name was subsequently changed to the Community Development Service Center. The Center has served three generations of families. **HealthFirst’s** service area has grown over the past 37 years to include the Portuguese, Hispanic, Cambodian, African American and Brazilian Portuguese populations. Accordingly, our staff members reflect the various cultures we serve, ensuring easy access for all patients, regardless of language, income or cultural barriers to care. **HealthFirst** has always been a resource for people struggling through difficult times, whether unemployed, a single parent or a recent immigrant. Federal assistance means you are assured of the highest quality care, and we will continue to greet anyone in need with open arms.

HealthFirst Family Care Center, is recognized as a federally qualified health center, is a FTCA deemed Section 330 Health Center and a Health Center Program grantee under 42 U.S.C. 254b, and a deemed Public Health Service employee under 42 U.S.C. 233(g)-(n).