



Corporate Offices

525 East Market St.
P.O. Box 2090
Akron, OH 44309-2090

Phone (330) 375-3000

For immediate release

Contact:

Jim Gosky
Public Relations
Summa Health System
(234) 312-5052
goskyj@summahealth.org

Summa Health System Names Ellen Smith Vice President

AKRON, Ohio, February 25, 2015 – Summa Health System has announced the appointment of Ellen Smith to the position of vice president for Business Development and Access. She began in her new role February 16.

As part of her responsibilities, Smith, 47, will direct a number of key areas and initiatives for the health system, as well as provide the leadership and strategic oversight for business development, physician relations and Summa's access call center functions. She will be responsible for helping the system develop a system-wide access strategy, which will include the identification, evaluation and prioritization of opportunities to improve access across all Summa facilities.

Smith joined Summa in 2014 as system director for Business Development and Physician Outreach. Prior to her tenure at Summa, she was senior director for Growth and Business Development at OhioHealth in Columbus. In her three years there, she developed and implemented a collaborative approach to service line marketing and business planning while achieving strategic growth in key service lines and across target markets. Before OhioHealth, Smith worked for 14 years in various leadership capacities at Spectrum Health in Grand Rapids, MI, where she provided oversight for regional business development and the system's clinical call center.

"Ellen brings a wealth of talent to this position," said Ben Sutton, Summa's senior vice president for Strategy and Performance Management. "In her relatively brief time at Summa, she has made a significant impression in a number of areas. I look forward to her continued contributions to our growth and success."

Smith holds a master's degree in Public Administration/Healthcare Administration from Western Michigan University and a bachelor's degree in Physical Therapy from Grand Valley State University. She is also a Fellow with the American College of Healthcare Executives.

About Summa Health System

Summa Health System is one of the largest integrated healthcare delivery systems in Ohio and is one of only two health systems in northeast Ohio accredited by the American College of Radiation. Encompassing a network of hospitals, community health centers, a health plan, a physician-hospital organization, a multi-specialty physician organization, research and the Summa Foundation, Summa is nationally renowned for excellence in patient care and for exceptional approaches to healthcare delivery. Summa's clinical services are consistently recognized by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (Magnet status), *U.S. News and World Report*, Thomson Reuters and The Leapfrog Group. Summa also is a founding partner of the Austen BioInnovation Institute in Akron. For more information, visit www.summahealth.org or find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/summahealth and Twitter, www.twitter.com/summahealth.

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