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**Lee Health Promotes Community Relations Leader**  
*Stephanie Wardein to head Lee Health's community affairs and  
relationship management efforts*

(Fort Myers, Fla. - Jan. 21, 2019) --- Lee Health has named Stephanie Wardein as System Director, Community Affairs.

In her new role, Wardein will spearhead all community relations activities and programs for Lee Health. She will lead community outreach and education, collaborating with other community organizations to develop working solutions to address local health-related needs. Her responsibilities also include developing and expanding relationships with community leaders and supporting Lee Health's ongoing community benefit reporting.

"Building positive relationships within our community is essential for Lee Health," said Scott Nygaard, M.D., MBA, Lee Health chief operating officer. "As System Director of Community Affairs, Stephanie will work closely with local leaders to develop and maintain partnerships that help us achieve positive health outcomes for the community we serve in Southwest Florida."

Wardein has been with Lee Health since 2012, serving in various community relations roles, including manager of community programs. In 2018, she was named one of Southwest Florida's "40 under 40" by Gulfshore Business magazine. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Liberal Arts – Theology from Franciscan University and a master's degree in Theological Studies from the Institute for Pastoral Theology at Madonna University.

**About Lee Health**

*Since the opening of the first hospital in 1916, Lee Health has been a health care leader in Southwest Florida, constantly evolving to meet the needs of the community. A non-profit, integrated health care services organization, Lee Health is committed to the well-being of every individual served, focused on healthy living and maintaining good health. Staffed by caring people, inspiring health, services are conveniently located throughout the community in four acute care hospitals, two specialty hospitals, outpatient centers, walk-in medical centers, primary care and specialty physician practices and other services across the continuum of care. Formerly known as Lee Memorial Health System, the organization began its second century of service with a new name in 2016. Learn more at [www.LeeHealth.org](http://www.LeeHealth.org).*