

BOZEMAN HEALTH AND THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH IN MONTANA

RELATIONSHIP STATEMENT

CELEBRATING HISTORY

Bozeman Deaconess Health Services, dba, Bozeman Health, is a non-profit, independent, faith-based and locally governed health system serving Bozeman and southwest Montana. Bozeman Health is the largest private employer in the Gallatin Valley with more than 2,600 employees. Bozeman Health Deaconess Hospital is a DNV-GL accredited, verified Level III Trauma Center.

In 1897, a local physician built and operated Bozeman's first and sole medical facility, a "Sanitarium," which was then leased to Methodist deaconesses beginning in 1902. In 1911, the Bozeman community and the Montana Annual Conference of The Methodist Episcopal Church formed a partnership to purchase this facility and renamed the venture Bozeman Deaconess Hospital. The hospital continued to be managed by the deaconesses until the 1940s.

GROWING TO MEET NEED

In 1956, 500 acres was purchased on a hillside above town and a portion of the site became Hillcrest Retirement Community, serving retired Methodist clergy and others. By the early 1980s the growth in the Gallatin Valley highlighted the need for a modern acute care facility. Trustees formulated a long-range development plan to relocate and construct a new 86-bed hospital north of the Hillcrest Retirement Community, with completion in 1986.

Since the 1980s, Bozeman Deaconess Hospital has steadily transitioned into a regional integrated health care network. This expansion has included additional neighborhood facilities such as the Belgrade Clinic, Big Sky Medical Center, outpatient surgery centers, Urgent Care, and retail care locations. A mobile outreach van and continued investment in telehealth demonstrate Bozeman Health's commitment to bringing care into the community. Additional services continue to expand in multiple areas of specialty care such as oncology, behavioral health, neonatal care, and adult intensive care. This growth has been supported greatly by the community at large through Bozeman Health Foundation's fundraising efforts.

REMAINING FAITH-BASED AND LOCALLY GOVERNED

Recognizing the value of spirit, body, and mind in the healing process, Bozeman Health has continued to emphasize its Methodist heritage with investment in sanctuary space, collaboration with the Spiritual Care department, and purposeful engagement of United Methodists in hospital governance. Per organizational bylaws, the Bozeman Health Board of Directors is composed of volunteer community and industry leaders, with recruitment to include the intentional sourcing of individuals who are members of The United Methodist Church. One such Member of the Board must be a clergy person appointed by the Mountain Sky Conference.

Board members are identified, recommended, and chosen based on specific competencies in areas such as finance, strategic planning, clinical practice, quality metrics, health care reimbursement and social services. United Methodist board members bring additional gifts and graces to the table, enhancing the trust relationship between Bozeman Health and the Mountain Sky Conference and finding guidance and value clarification in the Social Principles of The United Methodist Church. The board of directors seeks to sustain our rich relationship with the ministry of The United Methodist Church in Montana as we support Bozeman Health in living out its mission: *To improve community health and quality of life.*

Bozeman Health's relationship to The United Methodist Church is through its Mountain Sky Conference, the regional body which oversees all United Methodist congregations in the Rocky Mountain region – Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, Montana, and part of eastern Idaho. (The Mountain Sky Conference is the successor of the Yellowstone Annual Conference, the legacy conference with whom Bozeman Health's trust relationship was previously established, but which merged with the former Rocky Mountain Conference in 2018.)

COVENANT

Now, therefore, **Bozeman Deaconess Health Services** of Bozeman, Montana (Bozeman Health) **and The Mountain Sky Conference of The United Methodist Church** (the Mountain Sky Conference, or the Conference) set forth their understandings and intentions in this COVENANT RELATIONSHIP as follows:

1. Bozeman Health continually seeks to live out its mission: *To improve community health and quality of life*. The Bozeman Health Board of Directors (the Board of Directors, or the Board) is bound by this mission while fulfilling its fiduciary duties through effective governance and oversight.
2. Bozeman Health is directed by its commitment to the trust relationship with the Mountain Sky Conference, devoting its resources solely towards meeting the health care needs of Gallatin County and southwest Montana.
3. Neither the Mountain Sky Conference, nor any other conference, board, council, or entity affiliated with The United Methodist Church shall have any legal or financial responsibility for Bozeman Health or any of its operations or legal obligations. Likewise, Bozeman Health shall have no legal or financial responsibility for the Mountain Sky Conference or for any other conference, board, council, or entity affiliated with The United Methodist Church.
4. In the event Bozeman Health is ever dissolved, Bozeman Deaconess Health Services' Articles of Incorporation (Articles) provide that the Mountain Sky Conference shall receive all remaining corporate assets, but subject to this restriction: The Conference is bound to continue to apply those assets, after the payment of just debts, to the purposes for which Bozeman Health was established, namely, of providing health care and related services to the people of Gallatin County and southwest Montana.
5. The relationship established herein is between Bozeman Health and the Mountain Sky Conference of The United Methodist Church in particular. In the event the Mountain Sky Conference ceases to be affiliated with The United Methodist Church, Bozeman Health's relationship shall remain with the Mountain Sky Conference. Alternatively, if a majority of the Mountain Sky Conference's member congregations vote to withdraw from The United Methodist Church but remain aligned with one another, Bozeman Health's relationship will thereafter be with whichever entity may be established to preside over Methodist faith communities that were formerly associated with the Mountain Sky Conference.
6. The Board of Directors shall select its Members according to Bozeman Health's Articles and Bylaws. The Board demonstrates fiduciary responsibility by selecting Members who meet the skill, competency and leadership needs of the Board.

7. Historically, the Board was bound by its Articles and Bylaws to maintain a United Methodist majority among its Members. The Conference recognizes that this may at times conflict with Bozeman Health's fiduciary responsibility of ensuring that important competencies and skills among Members are met. The Corporation's Articles and Bylaws, then, shall allow for a departure from maintaining a Methodist majority, at the discretion of the Board, if the Board determines a departure is necessary in order to meet its fiduciary obligations to ensure necessary competencies and skills are represented on the Board. The Board and the Conference, however, will remain in open communication regarding the sourcing of new Members, with the Conference assisting the Board, at the request of the Board's Governance Committee, in identifying strong United Methodist candidates within Bozeman Health's service area to serve in governance in an appropriate capacity.
8. The slate of Members nominated by Bozeman Health to serve on the Board will be submitted by Bozeman Health as a Nominations Report for a vote at Annual Conference. Names of elected Members will be recorded by the Conference for publication in the Conference Journal.
9. In accordance with Bozeman Health's Articles and Bylaws, a United Methodist clergy member from Bozeman Health's service area will be appointed by the Presiding Bishop and serve on the Board of Directors for a term concurrent with the clergy's appointment, or until a subsequent appointment is made by the Bishop.
10. The Conference will collaborate with Bozeman Health to support and further its evolving identity as a faith-based organization, at the need and request of the Board.
11. Bozeman Health acknowledges the values defined in the Social Principles of The United Methodist Church, and accepts these Principles as guidance, not legally binding, but as statements of moral direction to guide contemporary decisions by persons of any or no faith orientation.
12. The Conference acknowledges Bozeman Health's right and responsibility to freely adopt and implement policies which consider the guidance of the Social Principles, respect the sanctity of the patient/physician relationship, and uphold the practice of compassionate, medically ethical care.
13. All phases of Bozeman Health's operation shall be without discrimination, remaining in compliance with Bozeman Health policies and with applicable state and federal law and regulation.
14. Bozeman Health and the Conference recognize the support and regulation of quality care as administered through DNV GL Accreditation, and such other regulatory bodies that interface with hospital operations and mission.
15. Bozeman Health and the Conference acknowledge their historic and ongoing relationship and may reference such relationship in public documents and statements.
16. Bozeman Health is required to seek approval from the General Council on Finance and Administration of The United Methodist Church if Bozeman Health wishes to use the official United Methodist insignia or the term "United Methodist" in its name, mission statement, publications, or promotional or marketing material.
17. This statement of Covenant Relationship will be reviewed every four years, or whenever a review may otherwise be requested, by Bozeman Health with the Board of Trustees of the Mountain Sky Conference as part of the ongoing communication and cooperation between the Conference and

Bozeman Health. Any change to this Covenant requires the approval of the Conference through its Board of Trustees and the approval of Bozeman Health through its Board of Directors.

THIS RELATIONSHIP STATEMENT AND COVENANT ARE HEREBY ADOPTED BY BOZEMAN HEALTH AND THE MOUNTAIN SKY CONFERENCE ON THE DATES SET FORTH BELOW.

BOZEMAN HEALTH

DocuSigned by:
Katie Daughenbaugh
By: _____
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Katie Daughenbaugh
Board Chair

Date: 10/12/2021 | 10:25 MDT

DocuSigned by:
Kerri Brown
By: _____
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Kerri Brown
Board Treasurer

Date: 10/12/2021 | 09:12 MDT

MOUNTAIN SKY CONFERENCE

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Nanci Snow Bockelie
By: _____
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Nanci Snow Bockelie
President, Board of Trustees

Date: 10/11/2021 | 06:53 MDT

DocuSigned by:
Gregory W Fisher
By: _____
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Gregory Fisher
Secretary, Board of Trustees

Date: 10/11/2021 | 11:01 MDT