



#### News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** Aug. 17, 2010

Contacts: Ed Boyle, Swedish, 206-386-2748, ed.boyle@swedish.org;  
Steve Kaiser, Stevens Hospital, 425-640-4035, skaiser@stevenshospital.org

### **State Approves Certificate of Need for Swedish-Stevens Affiliation**

*SEATTLE*, Aug. 17, 2010 – The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) today gave thumbs up to an innovative partnership between Seattle-based Swedish and Stevens Hospital in Edmonds. It will take effect Sept. 1, the same day Stevens is officially renamed Swedish/Edmonds.

In the first relationship of its kind in Washington state, DOH granted a certificate of need for nonprofit Swedish to lease and operate Stevens, owned by Public Hospital District #2 of Snohomish County. Under the 30-year arrangement, the District will receive monthly lease payments of at least \$600,000. Current Stevens administrators and staff will remain in place and new employees will be added as services expand.

Swedish will make day-to-day operations decisions for the facility and the Hospital District Board of Commissioners will be consulted on major issues. The District will continue to exist as it has a broader mission to enhance the health and well being of the entire community, far beyond acute-care hospital services.

“Hospitals all over America are aligning with other facilities for a variety of reasons,” said Cal Knight, president and chief operating officer of Swedish Medical Center. “In this case, both Swedish and Stevens were financially sound, but each needed a strong partner in order to grow and improve care in south Snohomish and north King counties.”

Swedish, Greater Seattle’s largest non-profit health-care provider with 1,245 licensed beds, has three hospital campuses in Seattle (First Hill, Cherry Hill and Ballard) and a fourth under construction in Issaquah. It also operates an extensive network of primary- and specialty-care clinics throughout King County, Swedish Visiting Nurse Services, as well as a freestanding emergency department (ED) and ambulatory care center (ACC) in Issaquah. Two other freestanding ED and ACC facilities are also currently under construction in Redmond and Mill Creek. Swedish currently employs 7,360 people system-wide, 410 of which are physicians. And its active medical staff is comprised of 1,550 physicians, most of which are private practitioners.

Stevens is licensed for 217 beds and has 1,200+ employees and more than 400 physicians with privileges.

“There is a good cultural fit on many levels,” said Mike Carter, Stevens president and CEO. “Both hospitals are non-profit and secular, we are locally controlled, we share a commitment to reforming how health care is delivered, and we are dedicated to assisting the underserved.”

Knight and Carter noted several important advantages to the new relationship. Together, Swedish and Stevens form a regional health-care delivery network that will allow Stevens to provide more local services, while giving residents greater access to the latest medical treatments and the comprehensive services of the Swedish system. Also, Swedish is connected to highly qualified health-care professionals all

– More –

## **State Approves Certificate of Need for Swedish-Stevens Affiliation/Page 2**

over the United States, which will help with recruitment and retention of first-rate physicians, nurses, therapists, administrators and support staff.

By combining their assets and talents, Stevens and Swedish will be able to better manage costs, provide greater value to patients by improving care-delivery models, and reduce waste. Swedish is committed to making significant investments in advanced medical and information technology at Stevens. Soon, the hospital will be integrated into Swedish's Epic electronic health record system, making it much easier for patients to manage their health care and for physicians to provide it. The Epic network offers a powerful set of secure online services such as transmitting lab results, e-mailing doctors, making appointments or paying a bill.

"From the outset, it was important to maintain Stevens as a vital community resource," stressed Carter. "We are the largest employer in Edmonds and, as we expand and diversify, the hospital will be a key driver of positive economic activity in south Snohomish County and beyond."

The new Swedish/Edmonds is planning many internal and external activities over the next few months to introduce staff, physicians and the community at large to its new directions.

For more information, visit [www.swedish.org](http://www.swedish.org) and [www.stevenshospital.org](http://www.stevenshospital.org).

###

### **About Swedish**

Established in 1910, Swedish has grown over the last 100 years to become the largest, most comprehensive non-profit health provider in the Greater Seattle area. It is comprised of three hospital campuses – First Hill, Cherry Hill and Ballard – a freestanding emergency department and ambulatory care center in Issaquah, Swedish Visiting Nurse Services, and the Swedish Physician Division – a network of more than 40 primary-care and specialty clinics located throughout the Puget Sound area. In fall 2009, Swedish broke ground on a new medical office building and hospital in the Issaquah Highlands, as well as an emergency department and medical office building in Ballard. More recently, Swedish announced plans to open freestanding emergency department and ambulatory care center facilities in Mill Creek and Redmond. In addition to general medical and surgical care, Swedish is known as a regional referral center, providing specialized treatment in areas such as cardiovascular care, cancer care, neuroscience, orthopedics, high-risk obstetrics, pediatric specialties, organ transplantation and clinical research. For more information, visit [www.swedish.org](http://www.swedish.org) and [www.swedish100.org](http://www.swedish100.org).

### **About Stevens Hospital**

Since 1964, Stevens Hospital has been committed to improving the health and well-being of the community through local, high-quality and compassionate health-care services. Stevens Hospital offers a range of hospital services including cardiac and cancer care, obstetrics, mental health services, emergency services and state-of-the-art diagnostic imaging. In 2010, the community hospital received a five-star rating for the treatment of stroke (two years in a row), pneumonia (two years in a row) and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease from HealthGrades, the independent health-care ratings company. Stevens Hospital, licensed for 217 beds with a professional staff of 1,200-plus, serves patients from South Snohomish and North King Counties. More than 400 physicians have privileges. The Board of Commissioners for Public Hospital District #2 of Snohomish County, Washington, is responsible for oversight of the hospital and its facilities. For more information, visit [www.stevenshospital.org](http://www.stevenshospital.org).