

NEWS RELEASE:

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Pardee CEO Search Committee identifies top candidates

(Hendersonville, N.C.) The Pardee committee charged with the responsibility of finding and recommending to the hospital's full board of directors a leader for the hospital met last Thursday and selected seven candidates to interview on-site for the position of president and chief executive officer of Pardee Hospital. That number had been narrowed down from several hundred who have applied for the position.

According to Larry Freeman, Pardee board member who serves as chair of the CEO Search Committee, the first round of interviews will be conducted in early June. Three to four of the candidates will be selected for second interviews to occur in late June. The committee will then make its recommendation to the Pardee Hospital board of directors for the new CEO. Freeman says the process is "on track" to have a new leader for the hospital by mid-summer. The new president and CEO will replace Jon Schurmeier who came out of retirement to lead the hospital and then retired again last winter to Ohio.

The nine-member search committee, appointed by board chair Marcia Caserio, consists of members of Pardee's medical staff, hospital associates, hospital and foundation board members, and Auxiliary volunteers.

"The search committee's members represent some of the major stakeholders in the hospital because it's imperative they have a voice in the selection of the new CEO," said Caserio.

“The committee is working efficiently and diligently to insure that the most highly qualified candidate is identified. It is reassuring to see that there is a significant pool of qualified applicants. I am confident that when the committee makes its recommendation to the board, the best candidate will be identified who can continue to build on the achievements of the hospital and successfully lead Pardee into the future.”

The hospital search committee and board of directors have retained the national health care executive search firm, Witt/Kieffer, to help with the selection process. The firm has successfully secured top executives for Pardee, Mission Hospitals and others in the region.

Pardee Hospital is a not-for-profit community hospital founded in 1953. The main hospital is licensed for 222 acute care beds and is the second largest employer in Henderson County. The hospital has several locations separate from the main campus, including a 130-bed nursing facility, an adult day services center, a health education center in the Blue Ridge Mall, home care services, a recently expanded rehab and wellness center on Thompson Street, a midwifery program, various family and internal medicine practices, and an urgent care facility. Pardee is a recipient of the 2006 HealthGrades Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence, placing the hospital among the top 5 percent of hospitals in the U.S. for quality of care. More information is available at www.pardeehospital.org.

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