

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
Thursday, July 13, 2023

**DR. MELINDA ESTES, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF SAINT LUKE'S HEALTH SYSTEM AND JIM SKOGSBERGH,
CEO OF ADVOCATE HEALTH, NAMED CO-RECIPIENTS OF NCHL'S 2023 GAIL L. WARDEN LEADERSHIP
EXCELLENCE AWARD**

CHICAGO, July 13, 2023, –The National Center for Healthcare Leadership (NCHL) is pleased to announce that Dr. Melinda L. Estes, president and CEO of Saint Luke's Health System of Kansas City, and Jim Skogsbergh, CEO of Advocate Health, have been chosen as recipients of the prestigious 2023 Gail L. Warden Leadership Excellence Award. This award, which has been honoring healthcare leaders for over 17 years, recognizes their outstanding contributions and commitment to improving public health through exceptional leadership and organizational excellence.

The Gail L. Warden Leadership Excellence Award is named after Gail L. Warden, the esteemed founding chairman of NCHL and a prominent leader in the healthcare industry. It honors Warden's remarkable achievements as a trailblazer in healthcare delivery, community wellness, health policy, and as a mentor to future generations. This award serves as a testament to his enduring legacy and leadership.

Melinda L. Estes, MD, is the president and CEO of Saint Luke's Health System, a prominent healthcare provider with 14 hospitals and campuses serving the Kansas City metro and rural communities. Dr. Estes is a board-certified neurologist and neuropathologist known for her dedication to strengthening physician engagement and addressing healthcare disparities. She has received numerous honors and awards for her leadership and clinical expertise.

Jim Skogsbergh is the CEO of Advocate Health, one of the largest nonprofit health systems in the United States. With a strong commitment to healthcare transformation and innovation, Skogsbergh has been recognized as one of the most influential figures in healthcare. He has played a vital role in quality improvement, patient safety, and healthcare equity initiatives throughout his career.

To honor their exceptional achievements, Dr. Estes and Skogsbergh will be formally presented with the Gail L. Warden Leadership Excellence Award during the highly anticipated NCHL's 2023 Gail L. Warden Leadership Excellence Award Celebration. This prestigious event will take place on Tuesday, November 14, 2023, at the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago, providing an exquisite backdrop with the scenic beauty of Lake Michigan.

The NCHL cordially invites everyone to join in celebrating this momentous occasion. The event will bring together more than 250 healthcare industry professionals who are committed to advancing the mission of NCHL and honoring the remarkable impact of the 2023 awardees. The NCHL formally invites all those who wish to celebrate this momentous achievement, to join us at the [2023 Gail L. Warden Leadership Excellence Award Celebration](#), the evening of Tuesday, November 14, 2023.