



PRESS RELEASE

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Peak Vista Community Health Centers Announces Organizational Changes to Strengthen Long-Term Financial Sustainability and Access to Care

Colorado Springs, Colo. – Peak Vista Community Health Centers (Peak Vista) yesterday announced organizational changes intended to address its structural operating deficit, align administrative staffing and operational support infrastructure with current patient volumes and strengthen the organization’s ability to provide care to the community for decades to come.

As a part of these changes, 43 positions were eliminated. The reductions were focused on administrative and operations support roles that do not provide direct patient care and did not include medical providers or clinical staff. These changes align Peak Vista’s support infrastructure with the number of patients it currently serves, even as the organization works to increase the number of medical providers and clinical support staff including medical assistants and nurses.

Over the past five-plus years, Peak Vista’s annual patient population has declined by nearly 24,000 – from more than 94,000 at its 2018-19 service peak to approximately 70,000 today – not because community need declined, but because workforce constraints limited access to care. During that same period, administrative and operational support staffing did not decrease proportionately. At the same time, the organization continues to face a structural operating deficit that requires corrective action.

Importantly, Peak Vista is not in financial distress. The organization maintains healthy reserves and strong liquidity. These corrective actions are being taken proactively to address an ongoing structural operating deficit, ensure Peak Vista’s long-term financial viability and realign resources toward the direct provision of care.

“We owe our employees, patients and community honesty about where we are financially,” said Jaeson Fournier, DC, MPH, president and CEO of Peak Vista. “These decisions are difficult, and there is no way to make them painless. Behind every position is a person who has been committed to our mission. As CEO, my responsibility is to safeguard Peak Vista’s future. That requires realigning our resources with our actual financial position and current service levels while protecting patient care and rebuilding access.”



“Maintaining an administrative and operational support infrastructure designed for a significantly larger patient population is not sustainable,” Fournier continued. “We must address that reality now so that Peak Vista can ensure continued access to care for our patients and communities for years to come. We are grateful for the dedicated service of the employees impacted by this reduction, and we are supporting them during their transition from Peak Vista.”

Impacted employees will receive severance based on tenure, continue receiving employer-sponsored health benefits through September, information regarding COBRA continuation coverage, unemployment benefits eligibility information and referrals to workforce and career-transition resources.

“We also understand that organizational change creates uncertainty for employees who remain with us,” said Fournier. “We are committed to transparency, clear communication, minimizing any disruption to patients, maintaining quality, preserving essential services and providing steady leadership as we move forward together in support of the communities we are so privileged to serve.”

No clinic closures are being announced as part of these organizational changes. Peak Vista’s medical and operational leaders have developed transition and mitigation plans intended to minimize disruption and maintain continuity across medical, dental, behavioral health and other patient services.

Peak Vista remains committed to expanding access to care across the communities it serves. The organization continues to recruit physicians, advanced practice providers, dentists and behavioral health clinicians and remains focused on restoring provider capacity and increasing access to primary care services for low-income patients and communities.

These changes are an important step toward creating a financially sound and appropriately structured organization that can better direct resources toward patient care, rebuild provider capacity in areas of greatest need and respond to evolving community needs.

For 55 years, Peak Vista has served the greater Colorado Springs region and surrounding communities. This transition is intended to strengthen the foundation necessary for Peak Vista to continue that service for generations to come.

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About Peak Vista Community Health Centers

Peak Vista Community Health Centers is a nonprofit organization providing exceptional health care to people facing access barriers. Celebrating over 55 years of community



health service, Peak Vista offers primary medical, integrated behavioral health and dental care services. The organization proudly serves more than 70,000 patients annually through 20 federally qualified health centers in Colorado's Pikes Peak and East Central regions. To learn more about Peak Vista, visit PeakVista.org.

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For more information, visit PeakVista.org.

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