Donna Isgett Named Chief Operating Officer for McLeod Health

McLeod Health has announced the promotion of Donna Isgett to the role of Chief Operating Officer.

She will report to President and CEO Rob Colones and have oversight of administrators at all seven hospitals in the McLeod Health system, which serves 18 counties, from the Midlands of South Carolina to the Coast. Isgett will continue to support administration of McLeod Physician Associates.

Isgett replaces Ron Boring, who recently retired from McLeod. Isgett’s appointment follows a national search that attracted 100 external and internal applicants from across the country.

Isgett has worked at McLeod since 1997, most recently serving as Corporate Senior Vice President of Quality and Safety, as well as McLeod Physician Associates.

“I’ve witnessed Donna Isgett working closely with our physicians and employees to shape a culture focused on patient safety and on clinical excellence that garners national recognition,” stated McLeod President & CEO Rob Colones.

“I look forward to this new challenge as we all work to keep improving healthcare in the many communities we serve,” Isgett said. “Although I’ve been at McLeod for many years, healthcare is a constantly changing environment. To gain fresh insights, I want to spend my first 90 days at all seven hospitals, listening and learning on all shifts and to as many physicians and employees as possible.”

Isgett has served as Senior Vice President of Corporate Quality and Safety at McLeod Health. This corporate division will move to Physician leadership, under the direction of McLeod Health Chief Medical Officer Dr. Dale Lusk.

Dr. Lusk is responsible for leading development and execution of clinical integration activities, driving physician alignment and engagement. He will assume oversight of leaders in the Divisions of Clinical Effectiveness, Service Excellence, Operational Effectiveness, Corporate Quality and Risk Management, Clinical Outcomes, Epidemiology, Medical Staff Credentials and Case Management.

“Donna has been courted to lead national organizations and it was clear, when we reviewed the other applicants, that she has the demonstrated experience and a knowledge of the McLeod Mission, Vision and Values to step into the role on day one.”

Her focus will be on fostering a culture of system thinking to benefit patients, physician and staff engagement and the pursuit of clinical and service excellence throughout McLeod Health.

continued on page 2
Chief Operating Officer (continued)

Ken Beasley, a member of the McLeod team since 2017, has been appointed to lead operations of McLeod Physician Associates as Senior Vice President, and will be reporting to Isgett and serving with Dr. Richard Alexander, Chief Medical Officer of McLeod Physician Associates. Beasley has decades of experience in leadership development, with physician leadership responsibilities at Palmetto Health, Tenet, and Providence prior to joining McLeod.

A native of Atlanta, Georgia, Isgett received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing from Georgia State University and her Master’s Degree in Nursing from the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston. She spent the majority of her clinical career as an emergency flight nurse. She also completed a Master of Business Administration at the Fuqua School of Business at Duke University.

Isgett has led corporate oversight of the Quality Divisions and championing clinical improvement activities throughout McLeod Health.

Isgett is also a member of the McLeod Regional Medical Center and McLeod Loris Seacoast Community Boards. In 2015, she was elected to the Coker College Board of Trustees. Isgett served as founding co-chair for the South Carolina Hospital Association (SCHA) Re-engineering Committee and is a member of the Board of Trustees for SCHA and incoming president of the SCHA Board. In 2011, she was one of two South Carolina healthcare leaders appointed to the Institute for Healthcare Improvement’s Executive Quality Leader Network.

She also served as the co-chairperson for the 2005 Institute for Healthcare Improvement’s National Forum. Isgett has personally been honored by receiving the Milliken Medal of Quality Award from the South Carolina Quality Forum, the Lewis Blackman Patient Safety Award from the South Carolina Hospital Association, the Mary Dean Brewer Women of Distinction Award, the Tribute to Women of Influence Award and the Extraordinary Women’s Healthcare Award. She is also a 2011 Liberty Fellow with the Aspen Global Institute. She is married to John Isgett and they have two children, John and Sarah.

McLeod Health Partners in Nursing Education Programs

As a partner in nursing education for the region, McLeod Health has made continuing contributions to two area nursing schools. Support of these valuable educational offerings is again reflected in this year’s $75,000 gift to Florence-Darlington Technical College (FDTC) and Francis Marion University (FMU) to help maintain their nursing programs.

“The need for healthcare services is increasing as the number of aging baby boomers continues to grow,” stated Tony Derrick, Chief Nursing Officer for McLeod Regional Medical Center. “As a result, more nurses are needed to educate and care for patients. This is why it is vitally important to McLeod that Florence-Darlington Technical College and Francis Marion University continue to educate nurses.

“McLeod recognizes the value of the nurse’s contribution in patient care,” said Derrick. “Providing patient advocacy, promotion of a safe environment, participation in shaping health policies and patient education are also key nursing roles. It is a tough job but with competent nurses as part of the medical team, McLeod is capable of carrying out its mission of providing quality health care for patients in the region.”
Thank You for Honoring McLeod Health

Quality takes time, talent and determination. Developing an extraordinary health system demands the same characteristics.

McLeod Health staff members working in clinical areas and ancillary services as well as our volunteers walk the halls of each McLeod Hospital daily led by a mission to care not only for the residents of the Florence community, but those living in the 18-county McLeod Health service area encompassing South Carolina and eastern North Carolina.

Our physicians, specialists and surgeons are also at the forefront in introducing new techniques and technology...and are among the first in the state with a number of groundbreaking procedures. From robotic-assisted surgery to high-tech treatments for most types of cancer, McLeod teams offer excellence in heart and vascular care, orthopedics, spine, home health and so much more.

McLeod Health remains committed to transforming healthcare through improved medical options, advanced treatments and access to the best in medicine for the benefit of our patients now and for decades to come.

This service extends beyond the hospital walls and into the region in more ways than just extraordinary medical treatment and patient care.

From the Midlands to the Coast, we are honored when community members take the time to recognize our hospitals and staff for excellence in local publications. This year, we shared with our teams the following awards we have received as a result of your votes for McLeod Health.

Morning News in Florence – Annual Best of the Pee Dee contest:
Best Hospital – McLeod Health
Best Pulmonologist – Dr. Vinod Jona
Best Orthopedist/Best Pediatric Orthopedist – Dr. Al Gilpin

Best Neurologist – Dr. Roland Skinner, III
Best General Surgeon – Dr. John Sonfield
Best Gastroenterologist – Dr. Timothy Spurling
Best Pediatrician – Dr. Weave Whitehead
Best Pediatric Cardiologist – Dr. Charles Trant
Best Cardiologist – Dr. Brian Wall
Best Pediatric Endocrinology Provider – Lisa Woodberry, FNP
Best Massage Therapist – Lindsay Springs
Best Place to Have a Baby – McLeod Regional Medical Center
Best Hospice & Palliative Care Provider – McLeod Hospice
Best Women’s Health Care Center – McLeod OB/GYN Associates
Best Medical Spa – The Spa at McLeod
Best Telehealth Service – McLeod TeleHealth
Thank You for Honoring McLeod Health  (continued)

Best Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Center – McLeod Sports Medicine & Rehabilitation
Best Pain Management Clinic – McLeod Regional Medical Center
Best Ultrasound – McLeod Health
Best Exercise Studio/Best Fitness Center/Best Health Club/Gym – McLeod Health & Fitness Center

Chesterfield County News and Shopper - Best of Chesterfield County:
Best Pediatrician – Dr. Jude Thomas
Best Nurse – Paige Rogers, McLeod Health Cheraw
Best Physical Therapy – McLeod Outpatient Rehabilitation Services Cheraw

The Item in Sumter – Best of Clarendon County:
Best Medical Center – McLeod Health Clarendon
Best Place to Work – McLeod Health Clarendon
Best Orthopedic Care – McLeod Health Clarendon
Best Place to Volunteer – McLeod Health Clarendon
Best Family Practice – Eagerton Family Practice
Best Pediatric Doctor – Dr. Lisa Heichberger
Best Cardiologist – McLeod Cardiology Associates Clarendon

Best Hospice Care – McLeod Hospice Clarendon
Best in Home Care – McLeod Home Health Clarendon
Best Day Spa – McLeod Health & Fitness Clarendon

The Dillon Herald – Best of Dillon County:
Best Surgeon – Dr. Mamdouh Mijalli
Best OB/GYN – Dr. Rebecca Craig
Best Pediatrician – Dr. Joseph Wangeh

North Strand News – Readers’ Choice Awards:
Best Physical Therapy Center – McLeod Health Seacoast Rehabilitation Services

The Sun News – Best of the Beach 2018:
Best Physical Therapy Group or Practice – McLeod Seacoast Rehabilitation Services

Florence News Journal – Florence’s Finest:
Best Place to Work – McLeod Health
Best Hospice – McLeod Hospice
Best Day Spa – The Spa at McLeod
Best Gym – McLeod Health & Fitness Center
Best Day Care/Nursery – McLeod Child Development Center

Marion County News Journal – Best of Marion County:
Best Family Doctor – Dr. James “Sandy” Garner
Best Nurse Practitioner – Linda Jones, FNP

We are honored by these recognitions and look forward to continuing to serve the healthcare needs of our community.
McLeod Physician Practice Celebrates 25th Anniversary

McLeod Health recently celebrated Medical Plaza Family Medicine for 25 years of serving our community through quality-based care. The practice opened for patient care on August 1, 1994. Thank you to the physicians and staff for your commitment to excellence.

The staff and physicians of Medical Plaza Family Medicine celebrate 25 years of excellent patient care to the Florence community. Pictured left to right are current physicians Dr. Cory Smith, Dr. Guy McClary, Dr. Don Behling, Dr. Richard Alexander, and Dr. Patrick Jebaily.

McLeod School of Medical Technology Holds Graduation

A graduation ceremony was held at McLeod Regional Medical Center on Wednesday, August 7 for graduates of the McLeod School of Medical Technology. April Orange (center), Program Director, McLeod School of Medical Technology, is pictured with 2019 graduates Christina Hunt and Joshua Beverly. The school was established in 1977 at McLeod Regional Medical Center to help provide qualified medical technologists to the region. Since then, the program has graduated 191 students.

McLeod Introduces School-Based Telehealth Program

School nurse Beth Holzbach, RN, facilitates a telehealth visit between Zane Moseley and McLeod Provider Lisa Wallace, NP.

McLeod TeleHealth is now offering a School-Based Telehealth Program at four Florence One Schools and The Kings Academy. The program allows students to be seen by a McLeod Provider for non-emergency medical care while at school. Students at these schools now have access to quality comprehensive health care for diagnosis and treatment of illnesses such as cough/cold, sore throat, pinkeye, rashes, allergies, respiratory infections, ear infection, flu, bronchitis, and other low-acuity illnesses.
Top 5 reasons to wash your hands.

Don’t spread infection.

Proper hand hygiene prevents the spread of disease causing germs from one person to another.

Soap and Water:
- Wet hands under running water.
- Dispense 2ml (one push of the lever) of soap onto hands.
- Wash hands and wrists vigorously for at least 20 seconds (sing the “Happy Birthday” song twice). Using friction, wash the palms, backs of hands, between fingers and under nails.
- Rinse under running water.
- Dry hands thoroughly with a paper towel.
- Turn off faucet with paper towel and dispose of into trash.

Alcohol Hand Sanitizer:
- Dispense sanitizer onto palm with one push of the lever.
- Briskly rub hands together to spread product to all surfaces. Interlock fingers and rub to spread product between.
- Continue rubbing until skin is dry, approximately 10 to 15 seconds.

Hand Lotion:
- Hand lotion that is not compatible with approved antiseptic soaps and gels should not be used while on duty. A hand lotion that is latex compatible and does not interrupt the long-term benefits of the hand soap or alcohol is available on all units and departments. Hand lotion is an integral part of the hand hygiene program.

McLeod Director Honored with the Patriot Award

Kate Miccichi, Director of Patient Relations at McLeod Regional Medical Center, was honored with the Patriot Award on July 24 during the Department Director’s meeting. The Patriot Award is the first in a series of awards given by the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve organization.

Kate was nominated for this honor by McLeod Patient Representative Tyler Allen, a member of the National Guard Reserves. An employee serving in the National Guard or Reserve may nominate individual supervisors or bosses for support provided directly to the nominating Service member and his family. The Patriot Award reflects the efforts made to support citizen warriors through a wide-range of measures including flexible schedules, time off prior to and after deployment, caring for families, and granting leaves of absence if needed.

The Patriot Award was presented to Kate by Edward Holmes and John Nichols, representatives with the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve.
McLeod Regional Medical Center Recognized for Baby-Friendly Designation

The South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHHS) and the South Carolina Birth Outcomes Initiative (SCBOI) recently presented McLeod Regional Medical Center with a $25,000 check for the organization’s efforts on behalf of all moms and babies, in recognition of its recent Baby-Friendly Hospital Designation.

The Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative is a global program launched by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) to encourage and recognize birthing facilities that offer an optimal level of care for infant feeding and mother/baby bonding.

McLeod Health Darlington

McLeod Behavioral Health Services Welcomes New Physicians

In August, McLeod Health welcomed Dr. Alkesh Gajjar and Dr. Nik Modi to McLeod Psychiatric Associates and McLeod Behavioral Health Services. These physicians serve psychiatric and mental health patients at McLeod Behavioral Health in Darlington and McLeod Regional Medical Center in Florence.

McLeod Behavioral Health Services is an acute inpatient facility comprised of Psychiatrists, Licensed Professional Counselors, Nurses and Activity Therapists providing care to adult patients. The team assesses, plans, delivers and evaluates care.

The treatment team provides crisis intervention and stabilization for patients based on their physical and psychological needs. Medication management is also provided. Most patients stay 5 to 7 days depending on their treatment goals. Individual, couple and family conferences are made available.

The McLeod Behavior Health Team treats a wide variety of conditions including:

- Depression
- Schizophrenia
- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
- Bipolar Disorder/Manic Depressive Illnesses
- Individuals with a Co-Occurring Substance Abuse Disorder
- Grief/Loss
- Postpartum Depression
- Psychosis
McLeod Nurses Receive DAISY Awards

Nurses are the eyes and ears of our patients, serving as their advocate during every interaction. McLeod is grateful for highly-skilled nurses whose critical-thinking skills and compassionate service make a positive difference in the lives of our patients every day.

To recognize those Nurses at McLeod Regional Medical Center who are true examples of Nursing Excellence, patients, family members and co-workers may nominate nurses for the DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses. The award is part of the DAISY Foundation’s program to recognize the super-human efforts nurses perform every day.

**July**

![Lisa Pate, a staff nurse in the Outpatient Surgery Department, received the July DAISY Award. Lisa, the 20th recipient of the DAISY Award, was nominated by a co-worker for her diligence and commitment to ensuring patient safety prior to a medical procedure. Lisa is pictured with her family following the award presentation.](image)

**August**

![Beth Gleason, a staff nurse in the Trauma Surgical Care Unit (TSCU), was recently named the August DAISY Award Recipient for McLeod Regional Medical Center. Beth, the 21st recipient of the DAISY Award, was nominated by a patient’s sister for her extraordinary care and compassion.](image)
Junior Volunteers Honored for Their Service

This summer, 191 teenagers ranging in age from 13 to 17 participated in the McLeod Junior Volunteer Program in McLeod Health hospitals across the region.

These teen volunteers donated 10,579 hours serving staff members, patients and visitors. Coordinated by McLeod Volunteer Services, the McLeod Junior Volunteer Program runs from June to August and allows teens to serve in numerous capacities throughout the hospital. The program also provides teenagers the opportunity to determine if healthcare is a career they want to pursue after high school.

Cheraw

McLeod Health Cheraw held an appreciation celebration on August 1 to recognize their Junior Volunteers. This year, 21 teens volunteered 930 hours of service.

Clarendon

McLeod Health Clarendon held an appreciation dinner on August 12 to recognize their Junior Volunteers. This year, 29 teens volunteered 2,176 hours of service.

Dillon

McLeod Health Dillon held a closing ceremony on August 7 to recognize their Junior Volunteers. This year, 24 teens volunteered 974 hours of service.

Loris Seacoast

McLeod Health Loris Seacoast held an appreciation ceremony on August 16 to recognize their Junior Volunteers. This year, 23 teens volunteered 1,485 hours of service.

MRMC

McLeod Regional Medical Center held an appreciation ceremony on August 9 to recognize their Junior Volunteers. This year, 94 teens volunteered 5,014 hours of service.
McLeod Health Cheraw Participates in Senior Health Expo

Kim Teal, RN, Sonny Usher, RN and Tara Jackson, RN, conducted biometric screenings for participants at the Cheraw Senior Health Expo. Attendees also had the opportunity to ask questions about nutrition and healthy lifestyles, physicians and health services provided by the hospital. (Not pictured: Anna Poole, OTR/L, McLeod Outpatient Rehabilitation Cheraw, and Layne Rogerson, McLeod Hospice in Cheraw.)

The Sumter Item readers and viewers voted McLeod Health Clarendon: Best Medical Center, Best Place to Work, Best Orthopedic Care and Best Place to Volunteer.

Additionally, McLeod received:
Best Family Practice – Eagerton Family Practice
Best Pediatric Doctor – Dr. Lisa Heichberger, McLeod Primary Care Clarendon
Best Cardiologist – McLeod Cardiology Associates Clarendon
Best Hospice Care – McLeod Hospice Clarendon
Best in Home Care – McLeod Home Health Clarendon
Best Day Spa – McLeod Health & Fitness Clarendon
McLeod Sports Medicine Adds Certified Athletic Trainers at Dillon and Lake View High Schools

McLeod Sports Medicine has expanded athletic training services to six new schools throughout our region. Dillon High School and Lake View High School in Dillon County are among these schools. The two new athletic trainers for these schools are Tyler Jamison, Dillon High School, and Tyler Saylor, Lake View High School.

McLeod Sports Medicine has 37 Certified Athletic Trainers (ATC) on staff who provide medical care to athletes of 30 high schools in the counties of Clarendon, Florence, Darlington, Marion, Horry, Dillon, Lee, Marlboro, and Chesterfield. They also provide athletic training services to the Florence Red Wolves, Francis Marion University and Florence-Darlington Technical College. The goal of an athletic trainer is to prevent injuries and provide timely access to care and manage day-to-day sport injuries to help keep athletes participating in their sport. Certified Athletic Trainers are state licensed and Nationally Accredited by the Board of Certification.

Pictured left to right are Tyler Saylor, ATC, at Lake View High School, and Tyler Jamison, ATC, at Dillon High School.

Monthly Specials

McLeod Spa

September Special:
20% off Nail Services at the Concourse Spa Location
20% off ALL Services for McLeod Health and Fitness Members at the MHFC Spa Location

Please call 777-3203 (Concourse) or 777-3200 (Health & Fitness Center) to schedule an appointment.

Don’t forget Tuesdays are Employee Days
Present your employee ID badge for 15% off any service or product.
(Not valid on gift certificate purchases.)

Visit www.McLeodHealthFitness.org for a menu of services.

McLeod Health & Fitness Center

September Special:
Pay nothing Until October
Visit McLeodHealthFitness.org for more information.

McLeod Resource Center

September Special:
Save 10% on Medela Pump and Save on Freezer Bags.
McLeod Health Carolina Forest ED Opening October 1

Located at the heart of the McLeod Health Carolina Forest campus, this new 15-bed freestanding Emergency Department will provide the residents of Carolina Forest and surrounding communities convenient access to excellent emergency care.

The Emergency Department will offer advanced diagnostic equipment including CT scans, imaging and lab. This is the only Emergency Department located in Carolina Forest, suitably housed on the 42.5 acre campus. The emergency department will be open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and staffed by experienced emergency medicine physicians.

Supported by the region’s largest healthcare system, McLeod Health, this $9.7 million project is located in the first building on the campus and adds 13,000 square feet to the facility.

The Carolina Forest Emergency Department will feature:
- 15 Exam Rooms
- 1 Trauma Room
- 1 OB/GYN Room
- 1 Behavioral Health Room

McLeod Health Therapy Services Hosts Ribbon Cutting

An Open House and Ribbon Cutting Celebration was recently held in honor of the relocation of McLeod Health Therapy Services to the McLeod Health Carolina Forest Campus. Attendees toured the facility and met the skilled pediatric rehabilitation therapists who specialize in the diagnosis and treatment of infants, children, and adolescents with a variety of congenital, developmental, neuromuscular, skeletal or acquired disorders/diseases.

“This relocation is part of our commitment to provide convenient access to rehabilitation services for patients close to home,” said Monica Vehige, Administrator of McLeod Health Seacoast.

McLeod Health Therapy Services is located in Building 2 on the McLeod Health Carolina Forest Campus.
McLeod Welcomes New Physicians

Please click on the image to learn more about Dr. William Jackson, McLeod Vascular Associates and other new physicians at McLeod Health.

For optimal viewing, please open the Flickr album in Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox.

Upcoming Events

SEPTEMBER 2019

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For a complete list of upcoming events, please click here to view the McLeod Health calendar.