



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Valley Oaks Health Expands Mission to Include Primary Medical Care. Increasing access for 1,000 low-income patients in the first year.

Valley Oaks Health has served the behavioral health needs of the region for over 100 years and is particularly proud of their recent addition of Same Day Access to behavioral health services, their investment in a 24/7 Crisis Response Unit in Tippecanoe County, and a 24/7 Mobile Crisis Team serving the 9-county region. The expansion into primary care is one more example of Valley Oaks' drive to improve the whole health outcomes of the communities they serve.

1 in 3 Tippecanoe County residents meet the federal qualifications for low-income status (61,906 people). Yet, according to HRSA data, the federal safety net health care system designed to treat low-income populations in the area currently supporting fewer than 25% of those residents. **"Too many people struggle to access quality healthcare on a regular basis. We're excited to step deeper into this space better serve the safety net healthcare needs of our community."** said Dan Arens, President and CEO of Valley Oaks Health.

For the past 2 years, Valley Oaks Health has provided primary medical care for patients who experience complex and co-occurring chronic diseases on a small scale. **"This expansion will allow us to better manage the whole health needs of our patients; treating their physical and behavioral health needs in one setting."** said Mary Grace Dennis, Sr Director of Community Health.

Primary Care at Valley Oaks Health is open to the community, and they are accepting new patients at the 2323 Ferry Street location in Lafayette, IN; planning to add 1,000 new primary care patients in the next year. Valley Oaks Health has been known as a behavioral health provider for decades and this expansion reflects their ability to treat the medical need of the community, regardless of behavioral health concerns. Patients can make appointments by calling 1-866-6VALLEY.

Valley Oaks Health is a 501c3 Not for Profit provider of behavioral health services in 9 counties across Northwest Indiana as an Indiana Certified Community Mental Health Center and a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic. Valley Oaks is accredited by the Joint Commission and served nearly 11,000 individuals in 2022, employing nearly 475 people.