

PRESS RELEASE

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LONG-TIME AVISTA ADVENTIST HOSPITAL CEO ACCEPTS NEW POSITION IN MARYLAND

LOUISVILLE—John Sackett, president and chief executive officer of Avista Adventist Hospital and long-time resident of Louisville, has accepted a position as president of a 331-bed hospital in Rockville, Maryland. Sackett will assume the position at Shady Grove Adventist Hospital, part of a system of Adventist hospitals in April.

Sackett's 31-year career in healthcare began at Boulder Memorial hospital as an administrative assistant. He then served as vice president and later as president of Avista, leading out in the building and staffing of the Avista campus which opened in 1990. During his tenure as president, he has also served as Senior Vice President for Mission and Ministry at Centura Health, the largest healthcare network in Colorado, of which Avista is a member.

"John's 31-year legacy at Avista is rare on many levels, and has been foundational to the hospital's success. He combines a persistent drive to serve patients as whole individuals with the ability to lead with vision and to build a strong culture," says Jim Boyle, Chair of the Avista Board of Trustees. "Under his leadership, the hospital not only opened but thrived and became recognized as one of the nation's top hospitals for patient, physician and employee satisfaction. While he will insist on crediting his staff, John's leadership has been what's made this possible. He will be sorely missed."

Sackett's vision for healthcare is holistic, emphasizing the importance of caring for the medical, physical and spiritual needs of patients. "His own experience with cystic fibrosis has given him penetrating insights into how patients feel in the hospital, and the importance of attending to the seemingly little things like privacy, good food, cleanliness and staff who go beyond what is expected," says Boyle.

"Sue and I have loved this community and our work with the Avista family has been the job of a lifetime. Our roots are deep here, and we are profoundly grateful for the incredible friendships and opportunities we've had. The Avista team is one of the finest anywhere, and it's been inspiring, humbling and exhilarating to do such purposeful work with them. We will leave a piece of our hearts here in this wonderful community and at this hospital, for sure, but are looking forward to the possibilities for growth that this new position offers," says Sackett. "We have great confidence that we are leaving Avista in the hands of a capable and dedicated team."

Sackett has been actively involved in the healthcare industry and in the community, serving as city council member for the City of Louisville and as board member for the Louisville Chamber. Sackett has been active in numerous civic, community and industry organizations including the Civic Forum, Community Food Share, United Way and the DHHS Housing and Human Services Advisory Committee and many others. Sackett has also been active in both the American Hospital Association and the Colorado Hospital Association, helping create better healthcare policy in Colorado and across the nation.

Sackett holds a bachelor's degree from Walla Walla University and master's in health administration degree from Loma Linda University, and is a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives.