

# News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## VA Northwest Health Network announces new VA Portland Health Care System Director



**VANCOUVER, Wash.** — The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is pleased to announce the appointment of Michael W. Fisher as the new Director of VA Portland Health Care System (VAPORHCS). Fisher will oversee delivery of health care to more than 95,000 Veterans with approximately 4,000 staff and an operating budget of \$813 million.

“We are excited to bring Mr. Fisher on board as the new director of VAPORHCS,” said Michael Murphy, Interim Network Director, VA Northwest Health Network, Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) 20. “His strong leadership qualities and proven experience will be valuable assets for the VISN, the employees and volunteers, and most importantly, for the Veterans we are honored to serve. His arrival date in Portland is scheduled for July 24.”

Mr. Fisher currently serves as Director at the VA Long Beach Healthcare System (VALBHS), a position he has held since June 29, 2014. VALBHS is a Clinical Referral Level 1B facility with five community based outpatient clinics (CBOC) in the Southern California area. As Director at VALBHS, Mr. Fisher is responsible for the care and services of over 56,000 Veterans and oversees an operating budget of \$500 million+ and 2600+ employees. Mr. Fisher sets the vision and strategic direction for the healthcare system by developing initiatives and tactics in alignment with VA national and regional priorities.

VAPORHCS consists of a tertiary care medical center located near downtown Portland, Ore. and the Vancouver Division, located near downtown Vancouver, Wash. VAPORHCS also operates ten additional community outpatient clinics across Oregon located in Warrenton, Bend, Salem, Fairview, Newport, Lincoln City, West Linn, Hillsboro and The Dalles, a Community Resource and Referral Center (CRRC) in downtown Portland. The main Portland medical center sits adjacent to its major academic affiliate, Oregon Health & Sciences University, and is part of VISN 20, which includes facilities in Alaska, Washington, Idaho and Oregon. The Portland Campus is a tertiary care, teaching, and research facility classified as a 1a complexity level facility, which, along with the Puget Sound Healthcare system in Seattle, Wash. acts one of two referral facilities for the entire Northwest Health Network, VISN 20.

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