



Photo captions provided below

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS RELEASE

**HSHS Southern Illinois Market honors new Chief Medical Officer
with Commissioning Ceremony**

SPRINGFIELD, III. — On March 6, Hospital Sisters Health System (HSHS) Southern Illinois Market honored Dr. Doug Barton with a Commissioning Ceremony in HSHS St. Joseph's Hospital Highland's Chapel. Dr. Barton joined HSHS as the Southern Illinois Market Chief Medical Officer on Feb. 10, 2025.

During the ceremony, Dr. Barton was presented with a San Damiano Cross by HSHS Senior Vice President, Chief Clinical Officer Dr. Kevin L. Lewis and welcomed by members of the HSHS Southern Illinois Market leadership team. Spiritual Care and Mission Supervisors Rebecca Niemerg and Chris Cobb provided welcoming remarks and a prayer for Dr. Barton.

Dr. Barton is an experienced physician executive with a proven record of improving hospital-wide patient outcomes at multiple health care systems. He is also accomplished at collaborating with community and cross-continuum partners, achieving improved patient outcomes. Dr. Barton comes to HSHS having most recently served as interim CMO at Mercy General Hospital in Sacramento, California, while also serving as a National Baldrige Examiner, reviewing health care systems' organizational performance against Baldrige criteria to enhance each system's ability to execute key organizational initiatives.

Dr. Barton has a master's in health administration from Webster University in St. Louis, Missouri, and is a Certified Physician Executive from the American Association for Physician Leadership. A board-certified pediatrician, he received his medical degree from the University of California San Diego, and completed his residency in pediatrics at Washington University in St. Louis.

For more information about HSHS, visit hshs.org.

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Photo 1 caption: Members of HSHS Southern Illinois Market's leadership team welcome new Southern Illinois Market Chief Medical Officer Dr. Doug Barton during a Commissioning Ceremony on March 6 in HSHS St. Joseph's Hospital Highland's Chapel. Left to right: HSHS St. Joseph's Hospital Breese Chief Administrative Officer Mandi Ennen, Southern Illinois Market Human Resources Director Vicki Kloeckner, Southern Illinois Market Chief Operating Officer Mike Janis, Southern Illinois Market President and CEO Chris Klay, Southern Illinois Market Chief Medical Officer Dr. Doug Barton, Southern Illinois Market Finance Director Mark Ennen, HSHS St. Joseph's Hospital Highland and

HSHS Holy Family Hospital CAO Teresa Cornelius, and Southern Illinois Market Chief Nursing Officer Regina Peterson.

Photo 2 caption: HSHS Southern Illinois Market's new Chief Medical Officer Dr. Doug Barton was presented with a San Damiano Cross by HSHS Senior Vice President, Chief Clinical Officer Dr. Kevin L. Lewis and HSHS Southern Illinois Market leadership team during Dr. Barton's Commissioning Ceremony on March 6. The San Damiano Cross is a significant crucifix in Franciscan history.

About Hospital Sisters Health System (HSHS)

Hospital Sisters Health System (HSHS) is a nonprofit Catholic health care ministry founded in 1875. Dedicated to our Mission to reveal and embody Christ's healing love for all people through high-quality Franciscan health care, HSHS clinicians provide exceptional care centered on the whole person. Based in Springfield, Illinois, HSHS employs nearly 11,000 colleagues who provide care in 13 acute-care, children's and critical-access hospitals and home health and hospice programs in Central and Southern Illinois and Eastern Wisconsin. HSHS is aligned with more than 1,000 primary and specialty physicians and advanced practitioners through its owned affiliates [HSHS Medical Group](#) and [Prairie Cardiovascular](#) and its partnership with [Prevea Health](#). For more information about HSHS, visit [hshs.org](https://www.hshs.org).