

CCH Board Member

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Spotlight



Kurt Kapels, MD, FACP

BOARD MEMBER

Dr. Kurt Kapels is excited to help shape the future of Columbus Community Hospital and the community.

The clinical director of hospitalist group Columbus Hospital Medicine is a brand-new member of the hospital's board of directors. As medical staff president, he will be representing the doctors who treat patients at the hospital.

"I want to serve our medical community and my colleagues to the best of my ability," he said, **"and for the betterment of myself, my patients and my community."**

Kapels grew up on a farm near Creston, Nebraska. After graduating from Lakeview High School, he received his undergraduate degree from Nebraska Wesleyan University in Lincoln, and earned his medical degree from the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) College of Medicine in Omaha. Kapels also completed his residency at UNMC, and has worked in Columbus since 2014 with CCH's hospitalist program.

Throughout his career, Kapels has been involved in many different physician leadership positions. These different opportunities included serving as a board member for LifeBridge Nebraska Physician Wellness Program Habitat for Humanity of Columbus board and the American College

of Physicians Fellowship. These experiences, he says, have uplifted his awareness and ability to handle a variety of situations.

Above all, nothing compares to the people of Columbus, according to Kapels.

"I am thankful for so many new activities and resources that have been developed recently within our community," he said, **"especially those that center around family and health."**

Kapels said the hospital is creating tremendous advancement by keeping the community's health top of mind.

"CCH has taken a comprehensive approach to improving the health and lifestyle of our community," he said. **"A preventive or proactive approach from hospital leadership has led to so many benefits for the city itself, such as the Columbus Wellness Center, Walk With a Doc program, partnerships with local employers and support of charitable organizations."**

A strong community can only go as far as the strength of its people, Kapels said. He believes the culture and mindset of CCH is what sets it apart from others in the area.

"The welcoming nature and supportive mindset of our staff, from volunteers to administration and physicians – this is

 **COLUMBUS
COMMUNITY HOSPITAL**

Columbus Community Hospital

the strength of the CCH organization," he said. **"This leads to high patient, community and staff satisfaction; and a great environment to be a part of as a physician."**

Kapels said he is happy to serve alongside the people representing the CCH board of directors.

"I feel blessed to assist in the growth of such an integral part of our community," Kapels said.

He hopes community members understand how much those at the hospital genuinely care about the betterment of the community.

"We take pride in the care we deliver, with a focus on quality and improvement," he said.

"I hope the hospital continues to remain proactive and insightful to meet the needs of a growing community in a complex medical world," he added, **"all while maintaining the collegial and supportive atmosphere that makes CCH special."**

Kapels and his wife have two children. In his free time, he enjoys spending time with his family, traveling, watching sports or hitting the links at the golf course.

To learn more about Columbus Community Hospital and its board of directors, visit columbushosp.org.