

Stewart takes over at Georgia Mountains Health

BY MOLLIE MORROW
MMORROW@THENEWSOBSERVER.COM

Andrew Stewart recently took over as chief executive officer (CEO) of Georgia Mountains Health (GMH) after 18 years in the health-care world.

Stewart replaced Steven Miracle who dedicated over 20 years to the organization, which started out in a trailer in Morganton.

Originally from Indianapolis, Indiana, Stewart came to the area after learning of the opportunity at GMH.

Stewart left a CEO position at an ambulatory surgery center in Phoenix, Arizona prior to coming to the North Georgia Mountains.

He "always had interest in the southeast," especially the mountains, Stewart said while

crediting God for making a way to get the position.

"I believe everyone deserves access to health-care," Stewart said after explaining he has worked in both for-profit and not-for-profit industries.

Of GMH, he said around 30% of their clientele is uninsured. GMH is able to offer a sliding fee based on income for those patients.

To expand access to care, GMH has launched a donation-based Community Care Fund that will help patients afford medical care and devices. Donations can be made by calling the office at 706-946-4647.

Stewart explained that GMH operates in five counties with the Blue Ridge location being one of their largest bases.

The office offers general medical care to adults and children as well as podiatry and behavioral health services. Language accommodations and telehealth are also offered.

Additionally, the Blue Ridge location will see a pharmacy open by the end of August, Stewart said. The pharmacy will be available to patients along with discounted costs.

In Ellijay, GMH has a pediatric dental practice. Stewart said he and the Board of Directors hope to expand that practice to adults in the future.

Stewart is married with four children and two grandchildren. He holds a bachelor's degree from Indiana University and master's degree from Indiana Wesleyan University.

GMH is located at 165 Blue Ridge Overlook in Blue Ridge.



News Observer photo/Mollie Morrow

Andrew Stewart is the new CEO at Georgia Mountains Health in Blue Ridge.