



Community Health Plan of Washington Continues Expansion of Regional Manager Team
As a Regional Manager, Debra Duplessis works with local community partners to support the health of CHPW members

SEATTLE – June 1, 2022 – [Community Health Plan of Washington \(CHPW\)](#), the Washington-headquartered managed care plan providing Apple Health (Medicaid), Medicare and Individual & Family health plans, has appointed Debra Duplessis to the role of Regional Manager, Regional Systems Integration, for the Great Rivers and Thurston Mason regions of the state. This includes Thurston, Mason, Lewis, Grays Harbor, Pacific, Cowlitz and Wahkiakum counties.

Duplessis' appointment is an important step in advancing CHPW's on-the-ground support for its members across Washington State. By expanding its team of regional managers, people who live and work in dedicated Washington counties, CHPW is better positioned to collaborate with community partners, advocate for CHPW members and improve health experiences.

"Our community partners play a critical role in providing CHPW members with a team of locally-based health care experts and service providers. By fostering these partnerships, CHPW's regional managers are true champions of our members' health and well-being," said Connie Mom-Chhing, Senior Director of Regional Systems Integration of Community Health Plan of Washington. "With Debra's vast experience in behavioral health and social work, she brings a fresh perspective to both the growing regional team and the work to address health disparities in her community."

In her new role, Duplessis serves as a liaison between the communities and the health plan to meet the unique health needs of CHPW members. A resident of the greater Centralia area, Duplessis is familiar with the behavioral health providers, hospitals and cross system partners in the region and statewide. She will work alongside community partners to strengthen the integrated health care experience in her communities and for CHPW's growing statewide regional manager team.

Duplessis brings over 30 years of experience in social work, counseling and mental health along with an in-depth knowledge of local resources. Prior to CHPW, Duplessis served as a Crisis Services Counselor and Psychiatric Emergency Services Counselor at Providence Saint Peter's Hospital. Additionally, she held positions in social work and mental health and served in the U.S. Army for more than two decades. Duplessis has received endorsements as a Washington State Child Mental Health Specialist and a trainer in the Domestic Violence Perpetrator Training Program and the Critical Incident Stress Management Course.

"I am excited for the opportunity to serve a team that values whole health and cares about the members in our local communities. After meeting with CHPW's staff and understanding their mission statement and core values, I believed I was a perfect match for the organization. I understand this is an important role for the community and look forward to helping CHPW carry out its mission," said Duplessis.

Duplessis' addition to the regional team follows the appointment of Gerardo Perez-Guerrero as the North Central Regional Manager. As part of CHPW's growing regional team, these regional managers and their community connections ensure members always have an advocate on their side to guide them



towards local resources for basic needs and support their health concerns. They are responsible for collaborating with health care providers and cross-sector partners on strategies to advance health care integration (physical health, mental health, behavioral health, and substance use disorder treatment services into one system).

To learn more about CHPW, visit chpw.org.

About CHPW

Founded in 1992 by a network of community health centers (CHCs) in Washington State, Community Health Plan of Washington is a community-governed, not-for-profit health plan formed to help coordinate care and advocate for people who were not being served by traditional insurance companies. The mission of CHPW is to deliver accessible managed care services that meet the needs and improve the health of Washington communities and to make managed care participation beneficial for community-responsive providers. CHPW serves approximately 280,000 members through Medicaid (income-based program called Apple Health in WA) and Medicare (age and disability-based program) across the State. CHPW connects members to various physical, behavioral and social support services, and reinvests surpluses back into the community to help advance health equity and improve access to high quality care for all people. Its parent, Community Health Network of Washington, serves nearly one million individuals across Washington through its member federally qualified community health centers across the State of Washington, and now offers Individual & Family Plans on the Washington health exchange. To learn more, visit chpw.org or connect on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), or [LinkedIn](#).

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