



**For Immediate Release**

## **The Health Plan Appoints Ed Kairis, MD, MMM as Chief Medical Officer**

**WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA**—May 11, 2020— The Health Plan, a health maintenance organization focused on improving the health and well-being of its members, announces the appointment of Ed Kairis, MD, MMM as its Chief Medical Officer. Dr. Kairis will provide leadership and direction to our medical directors and clinical operations. He will report directly to Jeff Knight, President/COO and serve on the Executive Management Team.

Dr. Kairis brings 15 years of managed healthcare experience to The Health Plan. As the Senior Medical Director for Gateway Health, he led the day-to-day operations of the medical management department with oversight of five medical directors and nine clinicians. Dr. Kairis has experience working with state regulators in West Virginia, in addition to developing medical policy and collaborating with colleagues to develop best practices for utilization management. Prior to moving to managed care, Dr. Kairis worked with Medicaid recipients as an attending pediatric physician at Allegheny General Hospital.

“His experience in regulatory compliance and healthcare policy will strengthen our clinical efforts to achieve our mission of improving the health and well-being for both our Medicare and Medicaid population,” said John Wright, Board Chair and CEO, The Health Plan.

Dr. Kairis earned his Doctor of Medicine from the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and his Master of Science in medical management from Carnegie Mellon University. He is board-certified in pediatrics and holds an unrestricted license in Ohio and Pennsylvania.

### About The Health Plan

As one of the largest locally managed care organizations in West Virginia, The Health Plan has a 40-year history of community and charitable giving. From sponsorship of local youth-focused asthma and diabetes camps to college scholarship programs and sponsorships of dozens of community events throughout the region, The Health Plan strives to make a positive and healthy impact throughout the geographic regions that we serve.

The Health Plan ([www.healthplan.org](http://www.healthplan.org)) is a clinically-driven, technology-enhanced, and customer-focused health maintenance organization that manages and improves the health and well-being of its members. Established in 1979, the West Virginia-based company, with offices in Wheeling, Charleston and Morgantown, West Virginia and Massillon, Ohio has offered a complete line of managed care products and services designed to provide health care systems and clients with innovative health care benefits and plans at a reasonable cost across the mid-Atlantic region and nationally.

###



The Health Plan