

Family practitioner named CEO of Sutter

By **DAVID PACINI**

SENTINEL STAFF WRITER

Family practitioner Larry deGhetaldi has been named chief executive officer of Sutter Health-affiliated Santa Cruz area health-care services.

He succeeds longtime Chief Executive Wayne Boss, who retires this month from the organization, which includes several local not-for-profit medical groups.

DeGhetaldi will oversee Sutter's 87-member Santa Cruz Medical Clinic, the county's largest physician organization, the 30-bed Maternity and Surgery Center and the local visiting nurse organi-

zation, which logs more than 31,000 home-care visits each year. The clinic and its affiliates provide services to about 125,000 people, or half of the residents of Santa Cruz County.

"Dr. deGhetaldi is the ideal person to lead our Santa Cruz health-care provider organizations," said David Druker, a senior vice president for Sutter Health. "He has lived in the Santa Cruz community for many years, and



DEGHETALDI

he is well-regarded as not only an outstanding clinician but a dynamic and committed health-care leader."

DeGhetaldi, 45, a board-certified family practice physician and the first physician to serve in the position of chief executive in Santa Cruz, has played a prominent role in developing Santa Cruz area health-care services.

"It's a challenge, and I'm grateful to have the opportunity," said deGhetaldi. "It represents to me that Sutter Health respects their physician involvement."

DeGhetaldi said Sutter is working to build "vertical integration" in the local health-care market, where patients receive a continuum of care from the

same organization whether they are visiting their doctors, being treated in a hospital or receiving restorative care.

"I think in Santa Cruz we have one of the best opportunities to make that happen," he said.

He also paid tribute to his predecessor, saying Wayne Boss ensured the success of the Santa Cruz Medical Clinic and the Visiting Nurse Association while bringing a nationally recognized, award-winning hospital to Santa Cruz.

"For me that's the legacy he's left Santa Cruz County," deGhetaldi said.

DeGhetaldi joined the clinic in 1985 and has served several terms on the Santa Cruz Medical Clinic Executive

Committee.

He headed negotiations to affiliate with Sutter Health and expand services and has served on the local management board since 1995.

A Northern California native, deGhetaldi graduated from UC-Santa Cruz and completed his medical school education at Wayne University in Detroit and at the University of Southern California. He completed his post-graduate medical training internship at Stanford University and completed the Stanford University Family Practice Residency Program.

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