



News Release

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Vera Whole Health and City of Kirkland to Open Worksite Primary Care Clinic for City Employees

City of Kirkland joins growing number of employers contracting with Vera Whole Health

SEATTLE — December 16, 2014 — Vera Whole Health today announced that it has signed with the City of Kirkland to offer primary, preventive and acute care, along with personalized health coaching, to approximately 500 city employees and their families at a new worksite clinic.

After conducting a rigorous 10-month RFP process with the Employers Health Coalition of Washington (EHCW), the City of Kirkland and EHCW selected Vera Whole Health as their preferred partner for all public employers in Washington state.

“The Vera Whole Health model of care is a key part of our ‘Healthy Kirkland Initiative’ which provides our employees and their families with a comprehensive approach toward improving their health outcomes while reducing the growing cost of care to the City,” said Kurt Triplett, Kirkland City Manager. “We believe this innovative public-private partnership can be a model for other governments to achieve both healthy employees and healthy budgets.”

Seattle-based Vera Whole Health offers on-site and near-site health clinics for organizations. Employers pay a low monthly fee for their employees to receive unlimited primary care, acute care and health coaching. Vera Whole Health medical teams include physicians, nurse practitioners, medical assistants and health coaches. The goal of its employer-funded clinics is to help employees develop and maintain healthy lifestyles, reversing the trend of rising overall health care costs.

“We’re incredibly excited to work with the City of Kirkland,” said Ryan Schmid, President and CEO of Vera Whole Health. “We look forward to helping the city create healthier communities, control health care costs and ensure that the right care is available and accessible to employees.”

The City of Kirkland clinic is expected to open in the spring of 2015 and will be located in the Totem Lake area.

Keith Robertson, Executive Director of the EHCW, who conducted the joint search with the City of Kirkland, was equally enthusiastic about the new partnership. “Public employers can leverage the City of Kirkland’s RFP to contract directly with Vera,” he said. “We believe the public sector, starting with the City of Kirkland, is ushering in higher quality health care that is more convenient and less expensive than the alternative.”

With this announcement, Vera Whole Health continues to expand its presence to meet the growing needs of employers in the Puget Sound region and beyond. The deal follows other recent announcements marking an upsurge in the company's growth:

- On Sept. 9, Vera Whole Health announced that [Virginia Mason](#) made a strategic investment in the company's latest round of funding, which closed at \$5 million.
- Vera Whole Health opened a new worksite clinic on Dec. 1 for [Trident Seafoods in Ballard](#), one of the nation's largest seafood companies.
- Vera Whole Health recently opened a clinic in Seattle's South Lake Union neighborhood and is expected to open up to seven additional clinics by mid-year in 2015.
- The City of Kirkland clinic brings Vera's total list of clients in the Puget Sound region to five, including Seattle Children's Hospital, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Trident Seafoods and a Seattle-based investment company.

"We have seen a significant increase in interest from employers during the past year," said Schmid. "We expect that interest to continue to grow as employers experience our unique approach to improving health outcomes for employees and reducing their overall health care costs."

Vera Whole Health currently operates its largest on-site clinic at [Seattle Children's Hospital](#). The clinic, which opened in 2013, reduced health care costs for the hospital's employees by \$2 million in its first year in operation.

About Vera Whole Health

Vera Whole Health is a Seattle-based worksite health care provider and industry leader in personal health and behavior change. Specializing in primary, preventive, urgent and worker's comp care, Vera helps clients reduce health care costs and improve the health and well-being of employees and their families. Visit verawholehealth.com for more information or follow [@VeraWholeHealth](https://twitter.com/VeraWholeHealth) on Twitter.

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