



Tom Barrett  
Mayor

Jeanette Kowalik, PHD, MPH, MCHES  
Commissioner of Health



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**For Immediate Release**  
April 8, 2019

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

### **City of Milwaukee Health Department and Ascension St. Joseph Partner to open Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Office**

Milwaukee, WI – In partnership with the City of Milwaukee Health Department, a new Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) office is opening at Ascension St. Joseph to help give more women and children access to the nutrition they need. WIC offers nutritious foods, nutrition education, including breastfeeding promotion and support, and referrals to other health and social services to low-income, nutritionally at-risk pregnant women, postpartum mothers, infants and young children up to the age of five. The WIC staff will be based at the Women’s Outpatient Center (WOC).

WOC offers care for low-income women and their babies throughout pregnancy, delivery and early parenting months, resulting in improved birth weights and reductions in infant mortality. Forty percent (40%) of WOC patients qualify for WIC benefits but are not currently enrolled. Having access to this program at the same site where women receive pre-natal care means more women and families will be able to take advantage of this valuable resource available to them.

**WHEN:** Monday, April 8, 2019  
4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

**WHO:** Mayor Tom Barrett, City of Milwaukee  
Dr. Jeanette Kowalik, Commissioner of Health, City of Milwaukee Health Department  
Kevin Kluesner, Chief Administrative Officer, Ascension St. Joseph  
Linda Puccini, Vice President, Patient Care Services, Ascension St. Joseph  
Allison McNeil, Manager, Women’s Outpatient Center, Ascension St. Joseph

**WHERE:** Ascension St. Joseph, 5000 W. Chambers Street, Milwaukee, WI 53210  
Women’s Outpatient Center, 5th Floor

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#### **Ascension Wisconsin**

*Ascension Wisconsin (ascension.org/Wisconsin) operates 24 hospital campuses, more than 100 related healthcare facilities and employs more than 1,300 primary and specialty care clinicians from Racine to Eagle River. Serving Wisconsin since 1848, Ascension is a faith-based healthcare organization committed to delivering compassionate, personalized care to all, with special attention to persons living in poverty and those most vulnerable. As such, Ascension Wisconsin provided more than \$292 million in community benefit, including care of persons living in poverty in Fiscal Year 2018. As one of the leading non-profit and Catholic health systems in the U.S., Ascension operates 2,600 sites of care – including 151 hospitals and more than 50 senior living facilities – in 21 states and the District of Columbia.*