



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## Mountain Lakes Medical Center Welcomes Jeff Dowis, MD As Interim Chief Executive Officer

We are pleased to announce that Jeff Dowis, M.D., a native of Cornelia, GA, has been named the Interim Chief Executive Officer of Mountain Lakes Medical Center effective July 24, 2017. Dr. Dowis was chosen as the hospital's next chief executive officer because of his close ties to the local community and dedication to patient-centered care. Dr. Dowis's primary role will be to oversee the clinical services offered at the current hospital campus, as well as to assist with the opening of the new 65,000 square foot medical center in September.

Dr. Dowis is entering his fifth year at Mountain Lakes Medical Center and has been serving as the Chief Medical Officer during that time. He commented, "My goal is to continue to care for patients in the North East Georgia mountains for the rest of my career. We are fortunate to be in a unique situation unlike some bigger facilities in that we are big enough to have the best and newest resources and equipment, but small enough that we still know our patients and their families by name. He went on to say – "In addition, because of our size, our providers know each other personally. We do something that has been lost these days, and in fact it's a standing policy; we pick up the phone and talk with each other directly about the care of our patients. We do this to ensure there is never a gap in care, that no critical information is lost in translation. But far and away, my favorite part of practicing in a rural setting is that it's a bit like the old days, in any given week, we as providers might be in clinic, ER, or the hospital. That continuity leads directly to better patient outcomes."

Growing up in Habersham County, Dr. Dowis understands the importance of ensuring high quality medical care to our area and maintaining a community hospital. Dr. Dowis is Board Certified in Family Medicine. He received his medical degree from the University of Health Sciences, followed by an internship at the Medical College of Georgia and a residency at the Mayo Clinic. He is a Major in the US Air Force Reserve, serving as a Flight Surgeon at Robins AFB, and enjoys flying and golf.

For more information about Mountain Lakes Medical Center, please call (706) 782-3100.

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