DR. CHAVEZ NAMED DENTAL DIRECTOR
FOR WESTERN SIERRA MEDICAL CLINIC
Three-dentist practice provides numerous services, including child dentistry, dentures and root canals

GRASS VALLEY − Dr. Juan Chavez, DDS, has been named Dental Director for Western Sierra Medical Clinic and will oversee the fast-growing three-dentist practice.

Chavez, who has almost 20 years of dentistry experience, joined Western Sierra in December 2013 after practicing in the Los Angeles area.

"I'm very excited about the opportunity and the responsibility of providing top-notch dental care to the region," said Dr. Chavez, who graduated from dental school at the National University of Mexico and took the dental boards at Loma Linda University in Southern California in 1996. "We're extremely proud of our fast-growing practice, and all of the services that we provide."

Chavez, who will oversee the dental services at the Grass Valley and Downieville clinics, encourages preventive care, including regular checkups to help people avoid discomfort and serious dental problems.

Western Sierra's dental services include regular teeth cleaning, deep cleaning for gum disease, extractions, fillings and root canals in the Grass Valley and Downieville clinics. Full and partial denture services are available at the Downieville location. Children's dentistry, including oral conscious sedation and nitrous oxide, is provided in the four-dental suite in Grass Valley.

"We're always looking at how to improve and expand our dental services," said Dr. Chavez, who is bilingual and was raised in Texas and Mexico City. "Western Sierra definitely fills a tremendous need in the community."

Dr. Chavez succeeds Dr. Justin Pfaffinger, DDS, who founded the dental practice at Western Sierra in 2009. Pfaffinger, who has a private practice in Nevada City, said time constraints prompted his decision to step down as Dental Director. However, Pfaffinger will continue to treat patients at Western Sierra.

"Dr. Chavez has demonstrated his abilities and skills during the past year and a half, and is more than ready to direct our dental practice," said Western Sierra CEO Scott McFarland. "I also want to thank Dr. Pfaffinger for seeing the need in the community and establishing the dental practice six years ago. Under his direction, the dental practice has grown and thrived, and Dr. Chavez will without a doubt continue its success."

About Western Sierra Medical Clinic

Western Sierra Medical Clinic provides comprehensive medical, dental and behavioral health care in Nevada, Sierra and Yuba counties. Founded in 1975, Western Sierra emphasizes preventive care, education and empowering patients to make informed decisions. Western Sierra provides services for the HMO and private markets, and to low-income and senior citizens. Western Sierra is the largest outpatient health care provider in Nevada County, where a new full-service health center is meet the growing demands in the community. You can learn more about Western Sierra Medical Clinic at www.wsmcmed.org and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/WesternSierraMedicalClinic