

## WESTERN SIERRA MEDICAL CLINIC ADDS THREE PROVIDERS FOR AUBURN HEALTH CENTERS

*New providers have treated patients in the region for decades*

**AUBURN** – Western Sierra Medical Clinic has added three providers with almost nine decades of combined experience for its Auburn health centers, an effort to provide more health care services in central and south Placer County.

Dr. James Fuller, a gynecologist, Dr. Hayne Kelada, who practices family medicine, and Family Nurse Practitioner Julie Hettig have started treating patients.

Western Sierra Medical Clinic, one of the largest outpatient providers in the region, recently opened Auburn health centers at 3111 Professional Drive (behind the Home Depot) and 12183 Locksley Lane. Dr. Kelada and Hettig will treat patients at both centers, while Dr. Fuller will practice at the Professional Drive center.

“With the addition of these providers, we are helping residents get the health care they need closer to home,” said Western Sierra CEO Scott McFarland.

All three providers have decades of experience in health care in the region:

- **Dr. James Fuller:** An obstetrician/gynecologist for more than 40 years will provide gynecological services at Western Sierra. Dr. Fuller was most recently with the Placer County Medical Clinic. He is also a surgeon at Sutter Auburn Faith Hospital, where he has held numerous positions, including Chief of Surgery, Chief of Staff and a member of the Hospital Board of Trustees. He has also practiced with Sutter Medical Group and UC Davis Medical Group in Auburn. Dr. Fuller has served as a board member of the Sierra College Foundation in Rocklin. He earned his medical degree from Baylor College of Medicine and completed his residency in obstetrics and gynecology at Kaiser Foundation in Los Angeles.
- **Dr. Hayne Kelada:** Kelada has more than 30 years of experience in family medicine, including in private practice in the Sacramento region. He has served as medical director for numerous skilled-nursing facilities, including Placer Pine Convalescent Hospital, Gold Country Nursing Home and Eldorado Convalescent Hospital. Dr. Kelada earned his medical degree from Alexandria University School of Medicine in Egypt and completed his residency in family practice at Monroeville Health System in Pittsburgh. He graduated magna cum laude with a bachelor degree in chemistry from New York University.
- **Family Nurse Practitioner Julie Hettig:** Hettig comes from Kaiser Permanente in Roseville, where she has worked since 2000. She was previously the Family Nurse Practitioner clinic supervisor for the Placer County Health Department, overseeing the women’s and children’s health programs. Hettig also has experience in managing adult and pediatric acute and chronic conditions, general practice, public health, wellness and

education. Hettig, who is also a Registered Nurse, earned a Master of Science in Nursing from California State University, Long Beach.

Western Sierra emphasizes preventive care and educational programs that help empower patients to make better and more informed health decisions.

The Auburn health centers are the first in Placer County for Western Sierra. The nonprofit health provider will open a health center in the coming months in Kings Beach (Tahoe). Western Sierra's main health center is in Grass Valley. Western Sierra has a health center in Downieville and will open another in Penn Valley during the next few months.

“We will continue to work to add providers and services to meet the needs of residents in Auburn, and all of the communities that we serve,” said Dr. Heather Lucas-Ross, Chief Medical Officer of Western Sierra. “We are always looking at how we can provide the highest quality of care.”

### **About Western Sierra Medical Clinic**

Western Sierra Medical Clinic provides comprehensive medical, dental and behavioral health care in Placer, Nevada, Sierra and Yuba counties. Founded in 1975, Western Sierra emphasizes preventive care, education and empowering patients to make informed decisions. You can learn more about Western Sierra Medical Clinic at [www.wsmcmed.org](http://www.wsmcmed.org) and on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/WesternSierraMedicalClinic](https://www.facebook.com/WesternSierraMedicalClinic).

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Western Sierra Medical Clinic has added Dr. Hayne Kelada (left), who practices family medicine, and Dr. James Fuller, a gynecologist, to its recently opened health centers in Auburn. Family Nurse Practitioner Julie Hettig has also joined the lineup of providers at the two health centers in Auburn.