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## OCCHD opens the Gary Cox Partner Building on the NE Wellness Campus

Oklahoma's first integrated health clinic is now serving the people of Oklahoma City. It has received attention nationally for service delivery through this model.

The Gary Cox Partner Building is a "one-stop" for all things health and wellness at 2700 NE 63<sup>rd</sup> and is named after Oklahoma City-County Health Department Executive Director Gary Cox who has served in that capacity since 2009.

Cox received a Juris Doctorate from the University of Tulsa. Before joining the OCCHD, Cox worked as an environmentalist for the Tulsa Health Department, where he went on to serve as Legal Counsel before eventually serving as Director for more than a decade.

"This campus, and this new building, says a lot about where we are as a community in 2016. Oklahoma City is using innovation and partnerships to raise the standards of health and wellness in our community. Communities around the country are looking at the City/County Health Department's unique approach to improving health and wellness outcomes. Better health benefits the community on every front, from economic development to better education outcomes to social mobility. We're extremely proud of the work being done by OCCHD and its many partners" states Mayor Mick Cornett.

Executive Director Cox has dedicated his career to improving health, raising the awareness about health issues across multiple sectors, and committing to developing and leveraging private and public partnerships to improve community health outcomes. He is committed to a culture of continuous quality improvement and has consistently supported transparent and accountable governance in local health departmental activities, evidenced by the Oklahoma City-County Health Department designation as one of the first local health departments to pursue and achieve National Accreditation.

"This is building is a unique collaboration between public health, primary care, mental health, workforce development, domestic violence counselors, as well as education and many other community programs holistically serving the client and approaching health and wellness together," says Cox.

He adds, "our community's health affects our ability to attract and retain employers and OKC is unified in addressing the needs of our community."

The clinic also provides Community Health Workers as patient navigators. They are able to review what resources each client needs and can connect them to this service. The services needed could range from a free Total Wellness class, walking out that day with a Food Bank box, enrolling in State insurance, receiving vaccinations or even help for mental health care or medication funding. The OCCHD integrated care model merges public and private healthcare together and serves as a "one-stop shop" for our clients.

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