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### **Gardner-Webb University Announces Expanded Partnership with CaroMont Health**

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# Gardner-Webb University Announces Expanded Partnership with CaroMont Health

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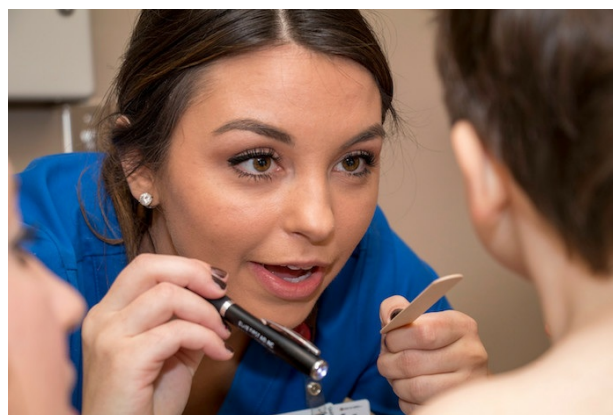
March 6, 2020

## *Arrangement Benefits Students in the Physician Assistant Studies and Nurse Practitioner Programs*

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C.—The Gardner-Webb University College of Health Sciences and CaroMont Health have announced an expanded educational partnership. Students in the Physician Assistant (PA) Studies program will benefit from the CaroMont Health Clinical Hub partnership for practice rotations. The GWU Nurse Practitioner (NP) Program will also see an expansion of a long-standing relationship with CaroMont. Under the guidance of CaroMont Health medical providers, Gardner-Webb PA and NP students will participate in clinical rotations which will offer direct patient care and hands-on learning experiences.



“As Gardner-Webb University continues to strengthen and project outward our signature degree programs in the health sciences, this newly formalized partnership with CaroMont Health is a huge boost,” affirms GWU President Dr. William M. Downs. “Together we share a common commitment to delivering practitioners who offer high-quality, highly compassionate health care to the communities we serve, and together this affiliation will produce lasting benefits to the people of our region.”



Gardner-Webb has a long, rich history of providing students with a strong academic foundation in the health sciences, and this new arrangement builds on that. Expanding this partnership leverages the resources of CaroMont Health’s medical professionals in critically important rotations such as internal medicine, surgery, behavioral health,

pediatrics and obstetrics/gynecology. By engaging in these opportunities with CaroMont, GWU students will be able to apply their medical decision-making skills in multiple clinical practice settings. This collaboration will also help to better prepare students to understand the demands and dynamics relating to patient care and the ever-evolving healthcare environment.

“The impact of this partnership has the potential to retain more PA and NP graduates in the local healthcare community, strengthening the foundational commitment of the College of Health Sciences to meeting the needs of our community,” says Dr. Nicole Waters, associate provost for the GWU College of Health Sciences.

CaroMont President and CEO Chris Peek shares, “We are proud to be identified as a clinical hub for this expanded affiliation with Gardner-Webb University. This collaboration perfectly aligns with CaroMont Health’s commitment to support the cultivation, education and training of future healthcare providers and medical leaders. A highly regarded institution like Gardner-Webb University, focused on the advancement of others, strengthens our community, and we are thrilled to be part of this program.”



#### *About Gardner-Webb University*

*Located in the North Carolina foothills, Gardner-Webb University is a private, Christian, liberal arts university. Gardner-Webb emphasizes a strong student-centered experience and rigorous academics to prepare students to become effective leaders within the global community. Ignite your future at [Gardner-Webb.edu](http://Gardner-Webb.edu).*

#### *About CaroMont Health*

*CaroMont Health Is a nationally recognized, multi-state integrated care network offering a range of innovative medical and wellness services that rival much larger metropolitan facilities. CaroMont Regional Medical Center, a 435-bed hospital, is the anchor of CaroMont Health with five affiliate companies and a network of 46 primary and specialty physician offices – each with the common mission of providing extraordinary, compassionate care.*

#### *About the College of Health Sciences*

*Programs housed within the College of Health Sciences include the Hunt School of*

*Nursing, the Physician Assistant Studies Program, and the Department of Exercise Science, offering diverse opportunities for students to pursue careers in healthcare.*