

## **The Power of Collaboration**

Michael Richards, Sys. VP, Gov't Affairs and Public Policy May 25, 2023

### **SSM Health: Facts**

- SSM Health is a Catholic, not-for-profit health system with locations in Illinois, Missouri, Oklahoma and Wisconsin.
- We have 40,000 team members and more than 12,800 providers committed to our mission.
- SSM Health has 23 hospitals, more than 300 physician offices and other outpatient and virtual services, 13 post-acute facilities, comprehensive home care and hospice, a pharmacy benefit company, a health insurance company and an accountable care organization.





# SSM Health: Mission, Vision, and Values

#### Mission

• Through our exceptional health care services, we reveal the healing presence of God.

#### Vision

 Peace, hope and health for every person, family and community, especially those most in need.

#### Values

•Compassion: We reveal the healing presence of God through compassionate care focused on the fullness of the person.

•**Respect:** We respect life at all stages and promote the dignity and well-being of every person.

•Excellence: We provide exceptional care and service through employees and physicians dedicated to our Mission.

•Stewardship: We use financial, human and natural resources responsibly and care for the environment.

•Community: We cultivate relationships that inspire service and promote justice in our organization and throughout our communities, with special concern for the poor and marginalized.



# **Keys to Effective Advocacy—5 P's**

- **Policy:** Do you know enough about the policy (legislation or regulation)? If you don't who may be able to provide you that information?
- **People:** Who are the key players in the departments, legislature, or the
- **Process:** What is the process for making comments, such as comments on rules, public hearings, and the timeline?
- **Political Environment:** Even though rules or policy is introduced, is the political environment such that the rule will move forward?
- **Partnerships:** Who are likeminded organizations who share your vision? What role can they play to assist you? Who may be driving any opposition to your approach?

## **Interstate Healthcare Collaborative**

### Why

As an interstate healthcare provider, we understood the challenges in obtaining multiple state licenses and the impact it would have on our ability to provide outreach and telehealth services.

#### What

Because licensure is statebased and each state has their own telehealth rules and regulations, interstate health systems needed to collaborate to advocate for interstate licensure compacts and more uniform telehealth policy.

#### How

We began with upper Midwest interstate systems and brought in groups interested in interstate compacts. Through monthly meetings, we have used the coalition to share information and have a shared advocacy message.



# Thank you

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