

## **Commitment to Our Mission**

Reflecting on the long history of Eskenazi Health in our community, one thing that has never wavered is our mission: Advocate, Care, Teach and Serve—with an emphasis on vulnerable populations. With the health care landscape currently in flux, while Eskenazi Health will always follow the law, we remain committed to this mission.

**Advocate:** We will continue to advocate for access to health care for all in Marion County, regardless of ability to pay. Advocacy includes making sure that our patients have access to life saving care. Advocacy also includes ensuring that our patients and their health care providers can make health care decisions, including decisions regarding reproductive health, in the privacy of the patient-provider relationship. We will advocate that those who are most vulnerable have access to the full array of reproductive health care. Advocacy also includes opposing proposed laws that criminalize access to safe, evidence-based medical care, or that place a patient's life in jeopardy.

**Care:** We will continue to care for our patients, employees, partners and our community. We show care by embracing and celebrating the diversity of our patients and employees—including showing respect for those with differing perspectives and beliefs. We understand that the topic of reproductive health raises strong opinions and that individuals will disagree. However, we can still act with civility and empathy toward one another. As has always been our policy, we remain committed to accommodating the beliefs of those who may wish not to participate in certain aspects of patient care or treatment based on cultural, moral, ethical or religious grounds.

**Teach:** We will work to teach and inform our community of the possible downstream effects of placing restrictions on reproductive health decisions. These downstream effects include placing providers in the untenable position of doing what is right for their patient and complying with laws that are at odds with their patient's health interests or the provider's requirement to stabilize and treat patients in emergency situations.

**Serve:** We will remain dedicated to serving all individuals in our community, and to providing access to health care. We will continue to advocate against policies that create greater disparities in maternal health for patients who already face many more barriers in accessing comprehensive reproductive health care services.

We respect the trust and privacy of the patient-provider relationship and an individual's right to make decisions about their health. We will support those decisions within the boundaries of the law and we will continue to provide safe, effective and equitable care to our patients.