

PRESS RELEASE



**Yakima Valley
Farm Workers Clinic**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dr. Germann Receives Awards for Work Supporting Access to Health Care

Woodburn – Dr. Tony Germann, Clinical Medical Director for Salud Medical Center in Woodburn, Oregon, recently received two prestigious awards, the 2023 Oregon Academy of Physicians Doctor of the Year, and the 2023 Project Access Now Health Advocate of the Year. The awards recognize his work supporting community health care and ensuring access to health care for everyone.

“Our health system rations care to those that can pay,” said Dr. Germann. “Project Access Now exists due to this structure. But...our ability to pay in this system is no longer only relevant to those that are poor. It’s affecting all of us.”

To help ensure continued access to health care for those who need it most, Dr. Germann worked with representatives at the Oregon state capital to help create the Bridge Health Care Program. This is a temporary option for those no longer eligible for Medicaid following the end of the federal public health emergency. The program offers health care coverage to those between 138% and 200% of the federal poverty level until Oregon establishes their planned Basic Health Plan.

This is not the only work he has done with state leaders, he also worked with Governor Kate Brown’s office in support of Oregon’s COVID 19 response.

Ultimately, those projects are just a small part of the work he does as a primary care physician at Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic’s Salud Medical Center.

“I came here for the community,” said Dr. German, discussing why he chose to work at Salud Medical Center. “I was very interested in being able to work in a rural community and utilize the skills that I’ve been training in for many years. I had recently graduated from a fellowship program in rural health. The

training program afforded me the skills of practicing more high-risk OB and doing deliveries, as well as having operative obstetrics.”

Dr. Germann has worked for Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic since 2012 and has been working in the health care field for 24 years. His parents were nurses, and while he never intended to go into the health care field, he found he naturally gravitated toward it due to his desire to help people.

“I want to use my voice to move us towards universal health care,” said Dr. Germann. “I really enjoy the work that I am doing but feel we can improve health care.”

***Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic** is one of the Pacific Northwest's largest community health centers, providing medical, dental, behavioral health and social services to more than 197,000 people a year. With more than 50 unique service locations across Oregon (Clatsop, Marion, Multnomah, Umatilla, and Yamhill counties) and Washington (Benton, Franklin, Spokane, Walla Walla, and Yakima counties), we deliver affordable, comprehensive primary care for underserved populations in our communities. We also extend our network of care through our mobile health units and virtual visit technology, bringing essential care to our more remote patients. Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic employs over 1,700 staff in addition to our medical and dental residents, administrative fellows, students, and volunteers. All of whom are dedicated to bringing quality care to those in our communities who need it most. Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization recognized by HRSA, The Joint Commission, and The National Committee for Quality Assurance for our accomplishments in community health care. For more information, please visit vyfwc.com/press. Newsletter sign up at vyfwc.com/newsletter.*