
Dr. Shanafelt, a nationally renowned leader and scholar in the field of physician wellness, is coming to us from the Mayo Clinic, where he has led physician wellness efforts as well as served as a Professor of Hematology with extensive research expertise in chronic lymphocytic leukemia.

At Mayo, Dr. Shanafelt developed a research-based comprehensive wellness program that decreased burnout significantly by focusing on systems and leadership as well as personal interventions, as he mentored junior faculty to become wellness experts. Simultaneously to directing his own institution efforts, he also provided leadership for the AMA and several national medical societies, becoming the most respected international voice on the vital importance of physician wellness.

In addition to his numerous accomplishments, Dr. Shanafelt is noted to have exemplary leadership, vision, collaboration, and integrity. We have experienced these fine qualities as he has recently worked with our WellMD Center on a variety of projects. Of particular importance to our medical staff and trainees, he will be reporting directly to the Dean as well as the CMOs of both hospitals. All three entities have had the foresight to recognize that physician wellness powerfully impacts patient care as well as the overall positive functioning of our organizations. They strongly support his role, which will be the first of its kind in the nation for an academic medical center. [press release]

We welcome Dr. Shanafelt, his wife and four young children to their new home!