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MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

***FCHS & Family Health Team recruit family physician***

**(Newbury, ON) –** The Four Counties Family Health Team (FCFHT) and the Four Counties Health Services (FCHS) are pleased to welcome a new physician to the area. Dr. Monica Faria will join both organizations in July 2019.

Born and raised in Calgary, Alberta, Dr. Faria completed a Masters of Science, and received her medical degree (MD/PHD) from the University of Calgary. She completed her family medicine residency training at Western University, where she developed an interest in rural medicine. Fluent in Portuguese, her hobbies include curling, hiking, and traveling.

“FCHS is excited to welcome Dr. Faria to the organization. As an integral part of the renewed vision for patient care at FCHS, her arrival greatly improves our ability to provide health care to our community. Physician recruitment is a daunting challenge throughout the country and FCHS is very pleased to welcome her”, says Steph Ouellet, VP Strategic Partnerships, Middlesex Hospital Alliance.

Dr. Faria shared the following: “The communities of Glencoe/Newbury and the staff at the FCFHT and FCHS have been incredibly welcoming and receptive to my interests. I look forward to being a part of the medical team in this community and am excited to develop new initiatives to provide comprehensive community based care to the region.”

“We are excited to have Dr. Faria join our team and we are all looking forward to working with her,” says Jean Ray, executive director of the Four Counties Family Health Team.

With a passion for providing rural medicine, Dr. Faria will open her family practice at the FC FHT in Glencoe and will support the FCHS inpatient unit and emergency department (ED). She will also be exploring the establishment of a women’s health program at FCHS, promoting safe sexual health and family planning including IUD insertions. Eager to engage in medical teaching, she will also be applying for an academic position at the Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry, thus hoping to bring additional residents and medical students to FCHS for their rural medicine education.

“The addition of Dr. Faria to the team at FCHS will be a great help with coverage of the ED and the inpatient unit," said Dr. Jon Dreyer - Deputy Chief of Staff, FCHS site, Middlesex Hospital Alliance. “We are certain our patients will appreciate her commitment and passion to improving their health and wellness.”

**Application forms to join Dr. Faria’s practice may be picked up in person at the clinic, which is located at 253A Main St in Glencoe.**

**About MHA**: The Middlesex Hospital Alliance (MHA) is comprised of two fully-accredited partner sites: Four Counties Health Services and Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital.

A progressive, team-oriented and technologically adept organization of excellence, the MHA is creating a more integrated and seamless approach to treatment by embracing and seeking out partnerships, through collaboration and investing in people. This coordinated approach helps to ensure that a high level of service is provided while reducing costs and continually enhancing quality.

**About FCFHT**: The Four Counties Family Health Team (FCFHT) is committed to providing comprehensive, collaborative primary health care. Its focus is on chronic disease management, disease prevention and health promotion, and is staffed by a team of health professionals working together to deliver the very best patient-centered care. The FCFHT includes not only family physicians, but a registered nurse, dietitian, social workers, pharmacist, occupational therapist, foot care nurse and administrative staff. Patients also have access to a wide variety of patient programs and workshops that we offer to help you manage chronic conditions and improve your physical and mental health.