

**July 31, 2017****For Immediate Release****Contact:** JoAnn Cavanaugh, Director, Public Relations**Office:** (716) 706-2061 | **Cell:** (716) 228-4886 | **Email:** [jcav@chsbuffalo.org](mailto:jcav@chsbuffalo.org)

## ***Buffalo Minimally Invasive Weight Loss Surgical Solutions Joins Catholic Health's Trinity Medical WNY, PC***

Catholic Health is pleased to announce that Buffalo Minimally Invasive Weight Loss Surgical Solutions (BMIWLSS) has joined its physician practice, known as Trinity Medical WNY, PC. The transition will be a seamless one for BMIWLSS patients, who will continue to see their same providers in the practice's existing location, which will be renamed **Trinity Medical Bariatric Surgery**.

Founded by Dang Tuan Pham, MD, BMIWLSS is one of the leading providers of weight loss surgery in Western New York. Dr. Pham and his associate, John Rutkoski, MD, treat more than 1,200 patients each year for obesity and the many health challenges associated with it.

In forming Trinity Medical Bariatric Surgery, Catholic Health more closely aligns its physician practice with its comprehensive bariatric services at Sisters Hospital and its St. Joseph Campus. Combined with nutritional counseling, physical therapy, and ongoing post-surgical support services, Catholic Health and Trinity Bariatric Surgery treat patients with compassion and dignity to help them lead healthier, happier lives.

"The health consequences associated with obesity are well documented and the exacerbation of conditions such as cardiac disease, type 2 diabetes, infertility, osteoarthritis, and many others can be devastating for patients," said Joe McDonald, president & CEO of the Buffalo-based health system. "We have enjoyed a long and mutually beneficial relationship with BMIWLSS and look forward to expanding our bariatric services to more patients in need of this specialized care."

"We've had a long-standing relationship with Catholic Health and share a common passion for caring for patients in a holistic and respectful manner. Coming together under the Trinity banner allows us to focus solely on our patients and to bring more resources to help them on their weight loss journey," said Dr. Pham.