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TWENTY-YEAR HEALTH EQUITY VETERAN DAWNA GOODE-LEDBETTER JOINS DOGWOOD HEALTH TRUST BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ASHEVILLE, North Carolina (May 22, 2019) – Dogwood Health Trust, a private, non-operating foundation whose purpose is to dramatically improve the health and well-being of all people and communities of Western North Carolina, today announced the appointment of McDowell County native Dawna Goode-Ledbetter to the organization’s board of directors.

Goode-Ledbetter has been an advocate for health equity and community development in McDowell County for more than 20 years. Since 2005 she has served as outreach coordinator at the McDowell Senior Center, where she helps facilitate home services for residents and oversees the Seniors’ Insurance Information Program (SHIP), assisting Medicare beneficiaries to make informed decision about their health care needs.

“Dawna has spent more than two decades working to advance health equity and build partnerships between communities and the health care sector in Western North Carolina,” said Dogwood Health Trust Board Chair Janice Brumit. “Her past work aligns perfectly with the purpose of Dogwood Health Trust, which makes her a natural fit to serve as part of our leadership.”

Over the past decade, Goode-Ledbetter has served on numerous community boards throughout the region. She currently serves as executive treasurer of the McDowell Chamber of Commerce and as vice-chair of the McDowell County Health Coalition (MCHC). She also chairs the West Marion Community Forum Inc. (WMCF), and the McDowell County Transportation Board. As part of her involvement with the MCHC, the WMCF and the Community Engagement Project at McDowell Technical Community College, she also took part in a \$2 million capital campaign to support grassroots community development strategies and address factors that influence health.

Goode-Ledbetter, the recipient of the 2019 Duke Energy Citizenship & Service Award, said of her appointment to the Dogwood Health Trust board, “I am honored to become a part of an organization that is going to make a huge difference in the health and well-being of the people in the Western North Carolina region.”

Goode-Ledbetter has three children and seven grandchildren and resides in Marion, N.C. She is the 13th member of the Dogwood Health Trust Board of Directors, which continues to evolve as the organization moves from its current formational stage toward more active community engagement and investment.

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ABOUT DOGWOOD HEALTH TRUST

Dogwood Health Trust is a North Carolina nonprofit corporation with the sole purpose of dramatically improving the health and well-being of all people and communities of Western North Carolina.

Dogwood Health Trust became operational upon the sale of Mission Health's assets to HCA Healthcare and will be the recipient of the net proceeds of the sale. To learn more, please visit www.dht.org.