



NOTCH Executive Director Pamela Parsons (center) with Fairfax Health Center providers Audrey von Lepel, MD (left) and Kathleen Talbot, PA-C (right)

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

**Fairfax Associates in Medicine to join Northern Tier Center for Health.**

Northern Tier Center for Health (NOTCH) is thrilled to announce that Fairfax Associates in Medicine will join the Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) on October 1st. The FQHC's seventh medical office, at 1199 Main Street in Fairfax, will be known as Fairfax Health Center after the merger. NOTCH will continue to deliver medical and behavioral health services at Fairfax Health Center employing the practice's current staff. In the coming year, Audrey von Lepel, M.D. will teach healthful cooking classes along with talks on food as medicine for osteoporosis, diabetes, cholesterol management as well as other topics. These classes will be announced.

Dr. von Lepel has practiced medicine in Fairfax since 1990. Beginning October 1st, Fairfax Health Center patients will have access to NOTCH sliding fee scales for medical, dental, and pharmacy services. They will also have access to prescription bubble packaging at NOTCH Pharmacy. In a letter to her patients, Dr. von Lepel wrote, "Fairfax Associates in Medicine is merging with NOTCH to guarantee that we can continue to offer the care you have all come to expect. It was not a difficult decision to choose NOTCH as a working partner."

Pamela Parsons, Executive Director of NOTCH, echoed Dr. von Lepel's enthusiasm, "We are excited that NOTCH will have a presence in Fairfax. Even more people in Franklin County will benefit from the spectrum of affordable, quality services that NOTCH has to offer. Dr. von Lepel and her staff are a welcome addition to our team."

NOTCH is a mission driven primary care practice with a focus on quality and continuity of care. It is also a private, non-profit organization that is overseen by a community-based Board of Directors. NOTCH delivers comprehensive health services to more than 14,000 people across Franklin and Grand Isle counties at locations in Alburgh, Enosburg Falls, Fairfax, Richford, St.Albans, and Swanton.

To make an appointment at Fairfax Health Center, call 802-849-2844. To learn more about other NOTCH locations or services, including dental and pharmacy services, visit [www.notchvt.org](http://www.notchvt.org) or call 802-255-5573.