

Dennis H. Smith Named UPHCN Executive Director

[MARQUETTE]—The Board of Trustees of the **Upper Peninsula Health Care Network** has named **Dennis H. Smith** of Marquette as the network’s new executive director.

Smith is president and chief executive officer of the **Upper Peninsula Health Plan** and the **Upper Peninsula Health Group**. He is also the current president of the Executive Committee for the **Michigan Association of Health Plans**.

Board of Trustees President Chuck Nelson said, “This is a time of great potential for the network, and Dennis Smith has a proven track record, given the health plan’s success during the past few years. Under his leadership, the network and the health plan can collaborate more closely. One big benefit is that the network and health plan can now share resources and the experience of their combined professional staffs.”

Smith added, “I appreciate the confidence placed in me and the network’s excellent administrative staff. The network and the health plan have been close colleagues for many years. Our combined efforts will now allow us to improve efficiencies and achieve greater success.”

The Upper Peninsula Health Care Network is a corporation of health care organizations formed to facilitate access to high-quality health care—at a reasonable cost. Its member organizations are 14 Upper Peninsula hospital systems. Those members work together to create opportunities for the region’s health care providers and to improve access to services for the region’s residents. The network’s administrative office is in Marquette.

Smith started his new position as executive director on July 13. Before joining the Upper Peninsula Health Plan in 2003, Smith was the senior director for insurance services at the Michigan Health and Hospital Association in Lansing and a principal in the MHA Investments Corporation.