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**READING HEALTH SYSTEM CONTINUES TO ALIGN AND ENGAGE ITS PHYSICIAN LEADERS BY
EXPANDING THE REACH OF THE APPLIED PHYSICIAN LEADERSHIP ACADEMY©**

New York, NY, April 18, 2017 – Reading Health System, in conjunction with The Leadership Development Group is changing its culture by focusing on physician leadership, alignment, and engagement. This month twenty-eight of the top ranked physician leaders from Reading Health System (RHS) graduated from The Leadership Development Group’s Applied Physician Leadership Academy (APLA©), an 18-month customized leadership development program, designed to engage and develop physician leaders. And, in January 2017, twenty-six emerging physician leaders joined together from across the organization to kick off a second cohort of the APLA that will run through March 2018. The program, intended to engage, inspire, and motivate leadership development for physicians includes structured training courses focusing on development of leadership skills and competencies; mentoring and networking, assessments, coaching and feedback; and the process to apply learning and develop leadership competencies through work on real business problems.

“We started this multi-year program in February 2016 with Department Chairs, Section Chiefs, and physician leaders from Reading Health. TLD Group’s blended learning approach has proven most effective for the development of our leaders,” said Clint Mathews, President & CEO of Reading Health. “Our physician leaders worked collaboratively to tackle some of the most pressing issues and the recommendations they made during their Capstone presentations were among the most innovative ideas I’ve heard all year.”

A number of the participants have continued to work together to move their action learning projects into the broader organizational system. The successful nature of the APLA program has further sparked the development of physician-led initiatives and a reinvigorated sense of organizational connection and community. “The APLA has served as a catalyst for strengthening relationships between physician leaders and administrative leaders – it’s been very successful,” said Russ Showers, VP of HR.

“We are thrilled to be working with the leadership team of Reading Health System to launch the second cohort for the APLA,” said Tracy Duberman President & CEO of TLD Group. “The APLA enables physicians to develop leadership capacity in four main clusters on Leading Self, Leading for Results, Leading Others, and Leading Change.”

“The APLA experience has made me a stronger leader. As leaders, we are often asked to handle situations that are challenging and have difficult conversations with our colleagues, and this experience allows me to do that with a better skillset and a higher level of confidence,” said Vinti Shah, DO, Chief, Section of Palliative Medicine, Reading Health System. “One of my favorite experiences with APLA has been the ability to work with a phenomenal team that I may not have otherwise had the opportunity to collaborate with. Time spent learning about yourself, learning about clinical leadership, learning about the issues that are impacting physicians today, and developing relationships with your colleagues and administration, is a win-win from all perspectives.”

Reading Health, headquartered in West Reading, PA, is an integrated, nonprofit healthcare system serving communities in Berks and surrounding counties. More than 1,000 physicians and providers across 46 locations offer comprehensive, quality care ranging from prevention, screenings, and education to the latest clinical services and treatments. The system includes Reading Hospital, a 695-bed hospital offering advanced specialty care including McGlinn Cancer Institute, Miller Regional Heart Center, Emergency and Trauma, Stroke and Joint Care. Advanced inpatient and outpatient care are provided at Reading Health Rehabilitation Hospital, including specialized programs for orthopedic surgeries, Parkinson's Disease and other movement disorders. Reading Health Physician Network is an integrated primary and specialty care group with more than 600 providers with offices located throughout the region. For more information about Reading Health, visit www.readinghealth.org.

The Leadership Development Group (TLD Group) partners with healthcare organizations, including providers, payers, and pharmaceutical companies, to provide talent development solutions including executive and physician leadership assessment and coaching, organizational development consulting, and group leadership development programs including our Applied Physician Leadership Academy© (APLA™). Our worldwide faculty of over 200 organizational development practitioners, academicians, coaches, and consultants with deep expertise in the healthcare industry, enable us to offer targeted insights and deliver highly impactful results. For more information about TLD Group, visit www.tldgroupinc.com.

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