

meet your RENTON NEIGHBOR



MEET Dr. James Park ›

☀️ **WORKS TO MAKE PEOPLE BETTER**

✉️ **CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER,
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT,
VALLEY MEDICAL CENTER**

📅 **YEARS IN RENTON: 30+**

Dr. James Park jokes that he's had only two jobs in his life: a lifeguard and a physician.

He's proud that both have been based in the Renton community.

In high school he worked as a lifeguard at the Newport Hills Swim and Tennis Club. After medical school in Wisconsin, Dr. Park came back to Renton to work for Valley Medical Center as a primary care physician and has been there since 1998. He's now the organization's chief medical officer and a senior vice president.

Community connections are one reason Dr. Park has stayed in Renton. Valley's mission statement is caring for the community like family. It's an approach everyone at the hospital strives for when caring for people in the remarkably diverse community they serve.

"Community is how we think about the staff who work here too," Dr. Park said. "We want to provide a work environment that makes

^ "Caring for the community like family" comes naturally for Dr. James Park, chief medical officer at Valley Medical Center.

both staff and patients better."

Dr. Park likes connecting with others and hearing their stories. Working in Renton keeps him close to people he's known for decades.

While Renton has grown up, the community still has a sleeves-rolled-up approach that Dr. Park appreciates. His dad was a Boeing engineer, one of many contributors to the city's hardworking culture.

In addition to hard work, high reliability is a priority at Valley. Concepts they were already working on helped them be more prepared when COVID-19 arrived.

"We've learned a lot in the past 19 months. It's helped us focus on the most important initiatives," Dr. Park said. "Overall, what we've experienced throughout the COVID-19 pandemic has made us better able to serve our patients and our staff."


Healthcare improvements will continue when you have people committed to making things better, he said. It's a theme that carries over to hospital staff recruiting.


Renton's lifestyle, easy freeway access, plentiful free parking and beautiful parks are




^ Dr. James Park said the pandemic has helped Valley Medical Center staff focus even more on the reliability initiatives already in place.

Valley Medical Center: Making a Difference in Renton

 Operates a 341-bed acute care hospital and more than four dozen primary care, urgent care and specialty clinics throughout Southeast King County

 Opened in 1947, is the oldest and largest public district hospital in Washington

 Serves more than 600,000 residents in South King County and is the largest nonprofit healthcare provider between Seattle and Tacoma

 Ranked as a Best Regional Hospital in Seattle Metro area and Washington state by U.S. News & World Report

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other benefits Dr. Park promotes to potential team members.

“Recruiting also has a lot to do with our people. They are a delight to work with. We’re darn good at what we do, and we work hard together. We also know how to have a little fun.” ❖