

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Women in Medicine® and First Women's Bank Announce 2026 Strategic Partnership to Empower Women Healthcare Leaders**

**CHICAGO, IL** (March 16, 2026) – Women in Medicine® (WIM) and First Women's Bank (FWB) are proud to announce a landmark partnership for 2026, aimed at advancing women's leadership and economic opportunity within the healthcare sector. As the Official Banking Partner of WIM, First Women's Bank will advance its mission of growing the economy and elevating the role of women within it.

While women represent a significant majority of the healthcare workforce, they continue to face disproportionate challenges in reaching executive leadership positions, achieving pay equity, and accessing the capital required to launch or scale independent medical practices. By strengthening leadership pathways and improving access to capital, the organizations aim to create a more equitable future where healthcare systems are stronger, and community health outcomes improve.

"When women physicians have access to leadership pathways and financial confidence, the impact reaches far beyond medicine," said Morgan Collier, Executive Director of Women in Medicine®. "We are excited to partner with First Women's Bank, an organization founded by a group of visionary women who, like WIM's founder, built a solution to support women's success."

This partnership with First Women's Bank will support WIM programming designed to equip women physicians with the business acumen needed to lead, finance, and scale practices.

"In healthcare, mission and purpose are often inseparable," said Marianne Markowitz, CEO, First Women's Bank. "We understand that physicians, many whom are also entrepreneurs aren't just managing complex businesses; they are protecting the well-being of our communities. First Women's Bank is proud to partner with WIM to support these leaders, combining our collective strength to unlock new financial growth opportunities in this vital sector."

Throughout the year, the partnership will roll out a series of nationwide programs, including tailored educational summits on practice ownership and navigating the intersection of medicine and business. Additionally, integrated digital thought leadership across WIM and FWB platforms will highlight the success stories of women-led medical innovations and showcase the core missions of WIM and FWB.

#### **About Women in Medicine®**

Women in Medicine® (WIM) is a national nonprofit on a mission to close the gender gap in healthcare leadership. By combining science-backed research, leadership development, mentorship, and targeted advocacy, WIM empowers women physicians and healthcare professionals to shape the future of medicine, positively impacting community health. For more information, visit [www.womeninmedicine.org](http://www.womeninmedicine.org).

#### **About First Women's Bank**

First Women's Bank is the nation's only commercial bank strategically built to grow the economy and elevate the role of women within it. We support the small business economy nationally with a

strategic focus on the women's economy. The Bank serves national lending and deposit clients from its flagship location in Chicago. First Women's Bank is a Member FDIC and Equal Housing Lender. For more information, visit [www.FirstWomens.Bank](http://www.FirstWomens.Bank)