



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Becker's Hospital Review Names 50 Critical Access Hospitals and CEOs to Know**

PARK RAPIDS, MN (September 10, 2015) – CHI St. Joseph's Health and CHI St. Joseph's Health President, Ben Koppelman, have been recognized on *Becker's Hospital Review* "50 Critical Access Hospitals to know" and the "50 Critical Access Hospital CEOs to Know" lists.

*Becker's* "50 Critical Access Hospitals to know" list features critical access hospitals that have demonstrated excellence in caring for their communities. Providing quality healthcare in a rural setting presents its own set of specific challenges. CHI St. Joseph's Health was named for not only meeting all of those requirements, but for going above and beyond to care for our patients.

"I am proud of our entire team and the work that they do each day to care for our patients and our community," said CHI St. Joseph's Health President, Ben Koppelman.

As of April 15, there were 1,332 critical access hospitals throughout the United States. Critical access hospitals like CHI St. Joseph's Health have a very important role in rural communities and within the overall healthcare system. Critical Access hospitals are unique in that they must have no more than 25 inpatient beds, have an annual average length of stay of no more than 96 hours for acute care, offer 24/7 emergency care and be located at least 35 miles from another hospital.

The administrators, presidents, CEOs and other executives on *Becker's* "50 Critical Access Hospital CEOs to Know" list lead the hospitals on *Becker's* "50 Critical Access Hospitals to know"

list. Under Koppelman's leadership and guidance, CHI St. Joseph's Health has achieved success and earned recognitions from multiple state and national organizations.

This year, CHI St. Joseph's Health had received the Minnesota Hospital Association Award for Superior Performance in Patient Safety Improvement and our sharp decline in serious safety events since 2011. To develop this list, The *Becker's Hospital Review* editorial team conducted research and examined several reputable hospital ranking sources relevant to critical access hospitals, such as iVantage Health Analytics, the National Rural Health Association, Healthgrades and CMS' Hospital Compare, among other sources. CHI St. Joseph's Health was one of only two Critical Access Hospitals in Minnesota to make the list.

###

**About CHI St. Joseph's Health**

*CHI St. Joseph's Health is a 25-bed critical access hospital serving communities in Hubbard, Becker, Cass and Wadena Counties since 1946. In recent years, CHI St. Joseph's Health's award-winning teams received several national honors including: The Joint Commission Top Performer on Key Quality Measures in surgery; Top 100 Critical Access Hospital, HealthStrong; WomenCertified's America's Best Hospitals Women's Choice Award in obstetrics; and the Studer Group Fire Starter Healthcare Organization of the Month among other national, regional and state recognitions.*

**About CHI**

*Catholic Health Initiatives, one of the nation's largest health systems, was formed in 1996 to strengthen the Catholic health ministry for the future. With deep roots in the tradition of expressing Christ's love by caring for those in need, Catholic Health Initiatives serves more than four million people each year through acute care hospitals; long-term care, assisted and residential-living facilities; community-based health services; home care; research and development; and reference laboratory services.*

###

Contact: Judy Miller  
Communication/Marketing Manager  
CHI St. Joseph's Health  
600 Pleasant Avenue  
Park Rapids, MN 56470  
218.616.3310