



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHI St. Joseph's Health Receives Patient Safety Improvement Award

PARK RAPIDS, MN (May 7, 2015) – CHI St. Joseph's Health received the 2015 Minnesota Hospital Association (MHA) Award for superior performance in patient safety Improvement at the 31st annual awards ceremony.

CHI St. Joseph's began its journey toward zero serious safety events in earnest in 2011 with the implementation of the SafetyFirst program. They have been actively engaged in implementing MHA's safety best practices and numerous other initiatives. This has included the creation of safety coaches throughout the organization; Error Prevention Techniques training for all new staff; implementation of daily safety huddles; safety rounding by senior leadership; and the active engagement of CHI St. Joseph's Patient and Family Advisory Council to review and discuss safety and quality outcome data and provide input.

"CHI St. Joseph's Health is fortunate to have providers, nurses and support teams committed to providing excellence for our patients every day," says Deb Haagenson, Vice President of Patient Care.

MHA president and CEO, Lawrence Mass further notes: "CHI St. Joseph's Health is helping to further strengthen patient safety and have set the bar high for patient care and for meeting the needs of their community."

CHI St. Joseph's is the recipient of six patient safety awards for implementing best practices and was one of the first eight hospitals in the state to earn the MHA Patient Safety Excellence Award for its achievement in the Hospital Engagement Network. Since 2011, near miss reporting has increased by 86 percent and the serious

safety event rate has decreased from 4.25 per 10,000 adjusted patient days in 2011 to 1.55 in 2014.

“This is a special accomplishment and demonstrates the commitment and priority we place on patient safety and quality improvement in all service areas at CHI St. Joseph’s Health,” says Chris Broeker, Director of Quality.

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Cutline

CHI St. Joseph’s Health receives award for superior performance in patient safety

CHI St. Joseph’s Health receives MHA Patient Safety Improvement Award at the 31st annual awards ceremony. Pictured from left are: Ben Koppleman, President; Chris Broeker, Director of Quality; Wendy Gullicksrud, Employee Health Coordinator and Deb Haagenon, Vice President of Patient Care.

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 took 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 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.

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