Top critical access hospitals announced

The 20 highest ranked critical access hospitals (CAHs) in the country, as determined by The Chartis Center for Rural Health, were recently announced by the National Rural Health Association (NRHA). An awards ceremony will be held during NRHA’s Critical Access Hospital Conference in September in Kansas City, Mo.

The determining factors for the Top 20 CAHs were based on the results of the Hospital Strength INDEX® and its eight indices of performance including inpatient market share, outpatient market share, quality, outcomes, patient perspectives, cost, charge and financial stability. This elite group was selected from The Chartis Center for Rural Health’s 2018 Top 100 CAH list, which was released earlier this year.

Forty “best practice” designations were also given to facilities that have achieved success in one of two key areas of performance, based on INDEX results: 1) Quality index: A rating of hospital performance based on the percentile rank across rural-relevant process of care measures and 2) patient perspective index: A rating of hospital performance based on the percentile rank across all 10 HCAHPS domains.

“NRHA is committed to ensuring our members have the best information to manage their hospitals,” said Brock Slabach, NRHA membership services senior vice president. “And we’re pleased to recognize the accomplishments of these rural hospitals.”

The list of Top 20 winners and best practice recipients, in alphabetical order and by category, is included below.

**TOP 20 CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITALS:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hospital Name</th>
<th>City/City</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Androscoggin Valley Hospital</td>
<td>Berlin, N.H.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aspirus Ironwood Hospital &amp; Clinics, Inc.</td>
<td>Ironwood, Mich.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aspirus Langlade Hospital</td>
<td>Antigo, Wis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avera Hand County Memorial Hospital</td>
<td>Miller, S.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avera Holy Family Hospital</td>
<td>Estherville, Iowa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barrett Hospital &amp; HealthCare</td>
<td>Dillon, Mont.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bear Lake Memorial Hospital</td>
<td>Montpelier, Idaho</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box Butte General Hospital</td>
<td>Alliance, Neb.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Montana Medical Center</td>
<td>Lewistown, Mont.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BEST PRACTICE RECIPIENTS – QUALITY:

Baum Harmon Mercy Hospital                     Primghar, Iowa
Bear Lake Memorial Hospital                    Montpelier, Idaho
Bigfork Valley Hospital                        Bigfork, Minn.
Butler County Health Care Center               David City, Neb.
Catskill Regional Medical Center – Grover Hermann Callicoon, N.Y.
CHI Health Missouri Valley                     Missouri Valley, Iowa
CHI Health Plainview                           Plainview, Neb.
Cozad Community Hospital                       Cozad, Neb.
Franklin County Memorial Hospital             Franklin, Neb.
Gordon Memorial Hospital                       Gordon, Neb.
Grisell Memorial Hospital                      Ransom, Kan.
Gundersen St. Joseph’s Hospital and Clinics    Hillsboro, Wis.
Howard County Medical Center                   Saint Paul, Neb.
Kingman Community Hospital                     Kingman, Kan.
Lafayette Regional Health Center               Lexington, Mo.
Mercy Hospital Tishomingo                     Tishomingo, Okla.
Mitchell County Hospital District              Colorado City, Texas
Sanford Westbrook Medical Center               Westbrook, Minn.
St. Andrew’s Health Center                     Bottineau, N.D.
St. Luke Hospital and Living Center            Marion, Kan.

BEST PRACTICE RECIPIENTS – PATIENT SATISFACTION:

Anderson County Hospital                       Garnett, Kan.
Bigfork Valley Hospital                         Bigfork, Minn.
CHI Health Mercy Corning                        Corning, Iowa
Electra Memorial Hospital                      Electra, Texas
Grace Cottage Hospital                          Townshend, Vt.
Gundersen Tri-County Hospital and Clinics      Whitehall, Wis.
Harper County Community Hospital               Buffalo, Okla.
Hopedale Hospital                               Hopedale, Ill.
Iowa Specialty Hospital – Belmond              Belmond, Iowa
Kirby Medical Center                            Monticello, Ill.
Laird Hospital                                  Union, Miss.
Mercy Hospital Cassville                       Cassville, Mo.
Mitchell County Hospital District  
Colorado City, Texas  
Murray County Medical Center  
Slayton, Minn.  
Osmond General Hospital  
Osmond, Neb.  
Pawnee County Memorial Hospital  
Pawnee City, Neb.  
Sanford Hillsboro Medical Center  
Hillsboro, N.D.  
Sanford Mayville Medical Center  
Mayville, N.D.  
Santa Ynez Valley Cottage Hospital  
Solvang, Calif.  
Spanish Peaks Regional Health Center  
Walsenburg, Colo.

About the National Rural Health Association
NRHA is a nonprofit organization working to improve the health and wellbeing of rural Americans and providing leadership on rural health issues through advocacy, communications, education and research. NRHA membership is made up of 21,000 diverse individuals and organizations, all of whom share the common bond of an interest in rural health. For more information, visit RuralHealthWeb.org.

About The Chartis Group
The Chartis Group® (Chartis) provides comprehensive advisory services and analytics to the health care industry. With an unparalleled depth of expertise in strategic planning, performance excellence, informatics and technology, and health analytics, Chartis helps leading academic medical centers, integrated delivery networks, children's hospitals and health care service organizations achieve transformative results. The Chartis Center for Rural Health was formed in 2016 to offer tailored services, performance management solutions, research and education to rural hospitals and facilities Learn more at Chartisrural.com.