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### **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:**

Androscoggin Valley Hospital  
Aspirus Ironwood Hospital & Clinics, Inc.  
Aspirus Langlade Hospital  
Avera Hand County Memorial Hospital  
Avera Holy Family Hospital  
Barrett Hospital & HealthCare  
Bear Lake Memorial Hospital  
Box Butte General Hospital  
Central Montana Medical Center

Berlin, N.H.  
Ironwood, Mich.  
Antigo, Wis.  
Miller, S.D.  
Estherville, Iowa  
Dillon, Mont.  
Montpelier, Idaho  
Alliance, Neb.  
Lewistown, Mont.

CHI St. Alexius Health Carrington  
Community Hospital  
Community Medical Center  
Floyd Valley Healthcare  
Grande Ronde Hospital  
Jefferson Community Health Center  
Livingston Healthcare  
Riverwood Healthcare Center  
Transylvania Regional Hospital  
Wallowa Memorial Hospital  
West River Regional Medical Center

Carrington, N.D.  
McCook, Neb.  
Falls City, Neb.  
Le Mars, Iowa  
La Grande, Ore.  
Fairbury, Neb.  
Livingston, Mont.  
Aitkin, Minn.  
Brevard, N.C.  
Enterprise, Ore.  
Hettinger, N.D.

### **BEST PRACTICE RECIPIENTS – QUALITY:**

Baum Harmon Mercy Hospital  
Bear Lake Memorial Hospital  
Bigfork Valley Hospital  
Butler County Health Care Center  
Catskill Regional Medical Center – Grover Hermann  
CHI Health Missouri Valley  
CHI Health Plainview  
Cozad Community Hospital  
Franklin County Memorial Hospital  
Gordon Memorial Hospital  
Grisell Memorial Hospital  
Gundersen St. Joseph's Hospital and Clinics  
Howard County Medical Center  
Kingman Community Hospital  
Lafayette Regional Health Center  
Mercy Hospital Tishomingo  
Mitchell County Hospital District  
Sanford Westbrook Medical Center  
St. Andrew's Health Center  
St. Luke Hospital and Living Center

Primghar, Iowa  
Montpelier, Idaho  
Bigfork, Minn.  
David City, Neb.  
Callicoon, N.Y.  
Missouri Valley, Iowa  
Plainview, Neb.  
Cozad, Neb.  
Franklin, Neb.  
Gordon, Neb.  
Ransom, Kan.  
Hillsboro, Wis.  
Saint Paul, Neb.  
Kingman, Kan.  
Lexington, Mo.  
Tishomingo, Okla.  
Colorado City, Texas  
Westbrook, Minn.  
Bottineau, N.D.  
Marion, Kan.

### **BEST PRACTICE RECIPIENTS – PATIENT SATISFACTION:**

Anderson County Hospital  
Bigfork Valley Hospital  
CHI Health Mercy Corning  
Electra Memorial Hospital  
Grace Cottage Hospital  
Gundersen Tri-County Hospital and Clinics  
Harper County Community Hospital  
Hopedale Hospital  
Iowa Specialty Hospital – Belmond  
Kirby Medical Center  
Laird Hospital  
Mercy Hospital Cassville

Garnett, Kan.  
Bigfork, Minn.  
Corning, Iowa  
Electra, Texas  
Townshend, Vt.  
Whitehall, Wis.  
Buffalo, Okla.  
Hopedale, Ill.  
Belmond, Iowa  
Monticello, Ill.  
Union, Miss.  
Cassville, Mo.

Mitchell County Hospital District  
Murray County Medical Center  
Osmond General Hospital  
Pawnee County Memorial Hospital  
Sanford Hillsboro Medical Center  
Sanford Mayville Medical Center  
Santa Ynez Valley Cottage Hospital  
Spanish Peaks Regional Health Center

Colorado City, Texas  
Slayton, Minn.  
Osmond, Neb.  
Pawnee City, Neb.  
Hillsboro, N.D.  
Mayville, N.D.  
Solvang, Calif.  
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](http://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](http://Chartisrural.com).