

Northwood Deaconess Health Center named to Top 20 Critical Access Hospital list

Grand Forks, N.D. – Northwood Deaconess Health Center (NDHC), in Northwood, North Dakota, was recently recognized as one of the Top 20 Critical Access Hospital (CAH) best practice recipients in the country.

Seven out of twenty best practice designations were given to CAH facilities in North Dakota. This recognition is given to those that have achieved success in quality, based on Index results: a rating of hospital performance based on the percentile rank across rural-relevant process of care measure. Three North Dakota CAH were in the Top 20 Critical Access Hospitals overall.

The Top 20 Critical Access Hospitals, including NDHC, scored best among critical access hospitals as determined by The Chartis Center for Rural Health. The rankings 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.

“Northwood Deaconess Health Center is pleased to receive this designation as one of the Top 20 critical access hospitals,” said Pete Antonson, NDHC CEO. “While we don't work for these awards, it is nonetheless a great honor to be recognized for the work we do. Our goal is to provide the highest quality care for the patients we serve. This award recognizes the hard work of all the staff at Northwood Deaconess Health Center.”

Other hospitals who received the Best Practice Award in the category of quality include: Cavalier County Memorial Hospital and Clinics, in Langdon; Pembina County Memorial Hospital, in Cavalier; South Central Health, in Wishek; St. Andrews Health Center, in Bottineau; Towner County Medical Center, in Cando; and West River Health Services, in Hettinger.

Three North Dakota hospitals received Top 20 overall recognition include CHI St. Alexius Health Carrington, in Carrington, Jamestown Regional Medical Center, in Jamestown; Sanford Mayville Medical Center, in Mayville.

The Top 20 CAH honorees are those hospitals who have achieved success in the overall performance based on a composite rating from eight indices of strength: inpatient market share, outpatient market share, quality, outcomes, patient perspective, cost, charge and financial efficiency. This group was selected from The Chartis Center for Rural Health's 2020 Top 100 CAH list, which was released earlier this year.

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](https://www.ruralhealthweb.org).

About the UND Center for Rural Health

Established in 1980, the CRH is one of the nation's most experienced rural health organizations. It has developed a full complement of programs to assist researchers, educators, policymakers, healthcare providers, and most important, rural residents to address changing rural environments by identifying and researching rural health issues, analyzing health policy, strengthening local capabilities, developing community-based alternatives, and advocating for rural concerns. For more information, visit RuralHealth.und.edu.