



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CHI ST. JOSEPH'S HEALTH RECOGNIZED NATIONALLY FOR
PROMOTING ORGAN, EYE, AND TISSUE DONATION**

PARK RAPIDS, MN (October 19, 2016) – CHI St. Joseph's Health was among a select group of hospitals nationwide recognized for promoting enrollment in state organ donor registries in a national campaign sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). The campaign has added 400,000 donor enrollments to state registries nationwide since 2011.

CHI St. Joseph's Health conducted awareness and registry campaigns to educate staff, patients, visitors, and community members about the critical need for organ, eye, and tissue donors and, by doing so, helped increase the number of potential donors in the state's donor registry. The hospital earned points for each activity implemented between May 2015 and April 2016 and was awarded Platinum recognition through the HRSA Workplace Partnership for Life Hospital Campaign.

Of the 995 hospitals and transplant centers participating in the campaign, 281 were awarded Platinum recognition during this phase of the campaign.

This campaign is a special effort of HRSA's Workplace Partnership for Life to mobilize the nation's hospitals to increase the number of people in the country who are registered organ, eye, and tissue donors and ultimately, the number of organs available for transplant. The campaign unites donation advocates at hospitals with representatives from their local organ procurement organizations, Donate Life America affiliates, and state and regional hospital associations. Working together, the

teams leverage their communications resources and outreach efforts to most effectively spread word of the critical need for donors.

In implementing the campaign, CHI St. Joseph's Health worked with LifeSource, the non-profit organization dedicated to saving lives through organ, eye and tissue donation in the Upper Midwest. "Our vision is that everyone shares the gift of life," said LifeSource CEO Susan Gunderson. "Our hospitals are critical partners in helping us achieve that vision, and I am thrilled that they continue to share the life-saving mission of donation in their facility and beyond the hospital's walls."

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Cutline:

CHI St. Joseph's Health was among a select group of hospitals nationwide recognized for promoting organ, eye, and tissue donation. Pictured (L-R): Chris Broecker, CHI St. Joseph's Health Director of Quality; Deb Andvik, LifeSource Hospital Liaison; and Carol Machovsky, CHI St. Joseph's Health Volunteer.

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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, a nonprofit, faith-based health system formed in 1996 through the consolidation of four Catholic health systems, expresses its mission each day by creating and nurturing healthy communities in the hundreds of sites across the nation where we provide care. The nation's third-largest nonprofit health system, Englewood, Colorado-based CHI operates in 18 states and comprises 103 hospitals, including four academic health centers and major teaching hospitals as well as 30 critical-access facilities; community health-services organizations; accredited nursing colleges; home-health agencies; living communities; and other facilities and services that span the inpatient and outpatient continuum of care. In fiscal year 2015, CHI provided almost \$970 million in charity care and community benefit - an 8% increase over the previous year -- for programs and services for the poor, free clinics, education and research. Charity care and community benefit totaled more than \$1.6 billion with the inclusion of the unpaid costs of Medicare. The health system, which generated operating revenues of \$15.2 billion in fiscal year 2015, has total assets of approximately \$23 billion. Learn more at www.catholichealthinitiatives.org.

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