



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **CHI St. Joseph's Health receives high honors for organ donation outreach**

**PARK RAPIDS, MN (December 1, 2015)** – CHI St. Joseph's Health knows that one organ donor can be a hero for up to sixty people in need of organ, eye, and tissue donation. Out of dedication to the community and an as an extension of its healing mission, CHI St. Joseph's Health works in cooperation with LifeSource to share Donate Life Minnesota campaigns to educate, promote awareness, and encourage people to register their intent to become donors.

Outreach and ongoing efforts by CHI St. Joseph's Health, with support from CHI St. Joseph's Health Auxiliary, have been honored by the US Department of Health and Human Services.

CHI St. Joseph's Health was one of seventeen healthcare systems to earn gold medal recognition status for their work out of the 280 hospitals in Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota.

LifeSource Hospital Liaison, Deb Andvick, presented CHI St. Joseph's Health with the Gold Recognition Award at CHI St. Joseph's Health Auxiliary annual meeting on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. CHI St. Joseph's Health received the award for encouraging hospital staff and community members to enroll in their state registry as organ, eye, and tissue donors.

“One hospital that raises awareness changes the world,” says Andvik. “Thank you CHI St. Joseph's Health for achieving this award and being a three time Workplace Partnership for Life Award Winner.”

The majority of this work took place from September 2014 through May 2015 as part of the Workplace Partnership for Life Hospital Campaign. Hospitals earned points for each activity held to educate staff, patients, visitors and community members about the critical need for organ, eye and tissue donors. There are over 120,000 people on the national list and 3,500 plus are from Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota.

Seventeen other healthcare organization in LifeSource's tri-state region attained silver and bronze recognition levels.

To learn more about organ, eye and tissue donation, or to register as a donor, visit [www.DonateLifeMN.org](http://www.DonateLifeMN.org).

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### **Photo and Cutline:**



Pictured from left are: Chris Broeker, Director of Quality; Carol Machovsky, Auxiliary Volunteer; Theora Goodrich, Auxiliary President; Deb Andvik, LifeSource Hospital Liaison.

### **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, 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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