



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

PARK RAPIDS, MN (May 2, 2018) – 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.

There are more than 3,000 people in our region waiting for an organ, eye, and/or tissue donation. Nationally, there are over 114,000 people who need an organ transplant. Unfortunately, 22 people die every day as a result of not receiving the organ or organs they needed. A new name is added to the transplant waiting list every 10 minutes.

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 2016 and April 2017 and was awarded Platinum recognition through the HRSA Workplace Partnership for Life Hospital 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 registered as organ, eye, and tissue donors. The campaign unites donation advocates at hospitals with representatives from 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.

In the US more than one hundred thousand people are on the national organ transplant waiting list. The need for organ donation is clear, become an organ donor and donate the gift of life. Go to www.organdonor.gov and sign up today to become an organ, eye and tissue donor!

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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): Carol Machovsky, CHI St. Joseph's Health Volunteer, Deb Andvik, LifeSource Hospital Liaison; and Chris Broeker, CHI St. Joseph's Health Director of Quality.

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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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