

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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MCHC recognized for Commitment to Patient Safety

Part of national work to enhance patient safety, affordability

Madelia, Minn. – Two plaques were recently presented to the Madelia Community Hospital & Clinic (MCHC) for their successful participation in patient safety initiatives through the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Minnesota Hospital Association (MHA). The plaques acknowledge the facility's dedication to enhancing patient safety through the Partnership for Patients initiative, and for successfully completing a program that aims to reduce the rate of catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI) in U.S. hospitals.

Partnership for Patients - In 2011, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) set a goal of improving patient safety through the Partnership for Patients, which targeted a specific set of hospital-acquired conditions for reductions. Over 3,700 hospitals participated making Partnership for Patients the largest national patient safety and quality improvement initiative. It was a fast-paced improvement initiative that required significant data submission requests and quarterly reporting. The valuable data reporting helped to identify strengths and opportunities for improvement, both at the local and statewide level.

In Minnesota, 115 hospitals actively worked to reduce the ten most common hospital-acquired conditions: pressure ulcers, falls, obstetrical adverse events, venous thromboembolism, adverse drug events, surgical site infections, catheter-associated urinary tract infections, ventilator-associated pneumonia, central line-associated bloodstream infections, and readmissions. MHA members collectively improved safety across the board by 37 percent, prevented 12,000 patients from being harmed, and saved patients over 93 million dollars.

On the CUSP: Stop CAUTI Project - The On the CUSP: Stop CAUTI initiative is working with state organizations and hospitals across the country to implement the Comprehensive Unit-based Safety Program (CUSP) and catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI) reduction practices in hospitals. It is a terrific opportunity for hospitals to launch or refocus efforts to reduce catheter-associated urinary tract infections and to implement a proven, effective culture change model. Hospitals

that join the 18-month project commit to the following activities: participation of at least one team member in content and coaching teleconferences; attend state-level, in-person learning sessions; comply with data collection and submission requirements; learn and implement collaborative improvement tools; hold monthly safety meetings to review CAUTI process and outcome data, and teamwork and communication data.

Catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI) are the most common type of health care-associated infection. As many as one-fourth of all hospital inpatients may have a short-term, indwelling urinary catheter placed during their hospital stay. Complications associated with CAUTI result in increased length of stay, patient discomfort, excess health care costs, and sometimes mortality.

Hospitals achieve these improvements by developing an infrastructure that provides evidence-based best practices, tools and resources to prevent adverse events from happening. Hospital leaders and caregivers also focused on engaging patients and families as important partners in patient care.

“The Madelia Community Hospital & Clinic has a reputation for providing high quality patient-centered care, and we work hard to make it better and more affordable,” said Candace Fenske, CEO of MCHC. “These efforts demonstrate the commitment of our caregivers to provide quality, safe care for patients close to their home.”

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About Madelia Community Hospital & Clinic

Madelia Community Hospital & Clinic is a private, nonprofit facility staffed by a team of physicians and medical professionals that is profoundly committed to providing health care of the highest standards to Madelia and surrounding communities. As a 25-bed acute care hospital, we offer all the primary health services, such as medical/surgical, pediatric, emergency care and more. In 2011, we expanded our services to include a family medical clinic which provides adolescent health, geriatric health, men’s health, newborn health, pediatric health, preventative medicine and women’s health. Over the years, we have proactively responded to the changing demands within the health care system, which has ensured our ability to deliver up-to-date medical services, purchase advanced medical equipment, and provide complete and compassionate care to all who enter our facility.



MCHC nursing staff shown holding one of their plaques from left to right: (seated) Megan Gossman, Crystal Blickem, Betty Spidahl; standing: Ashley Kunz, Connie Miller, Deidre Hruby, Jen McLaughlin.