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UCare honors 16 high-performing health care providers at June 26 “A Salute to Excellence!” event

Minnesota clinics and care systems were recognized for achieving outstanding results in UCare’s 2015 quality programs

MINNEAPOLIS, June 30, 2016 — [UCare](#) held its eighth annual “A Salute to Excellence!” event Thursday evening, June 23, to recognize 16 clinics and care systems participating in UCare’s 2015 Pay for Performance (P4P) and quality programs.

The P4P event is held annually to recognize health care providers who earned quality excellence awards for providing outstanding, high-quality service to UCare’s Medicare and Medicaid members in Minnesota in 2015. Additional awards honor providers who go the extra mile to deliver culturally responsible health services, and reduce barriers to care for people with disabilities.

UCare’s A Salute to Excellence! event at the University of Minnesota’s McNamara Alumni Center included a reception, dinner and awards program. Jim Eppel, President and CEO, UCare, and Dr. Larry Lee, Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer, UCare, honored guests representing top-performing health care organizations providing care and services to UCare’s Medicare and Medicaid members.

“We honor the excellent work and dedication of the 16 clinics and care systems here this evening who provide our members with outstanding health care,” said Eppel at the event. “Our Pay for Performance program identifies and rewards providers who deliver high-quality care daily – and who strive for excellence in all they do. We value each provider and the power of the partnerships we have forged together in the interests of UCare members across Minnesota.”

The June 23 A Salute to Excellence! event honored the following physicians and staff:

Medicare/Minnesota Senior Health Options (MSHO) Overall Performance Quality of Care

- Allina Health System
- CentraCare Family Health – Long Prairie Clinic

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- CentraCare Family Health – Paynesville Clinic
- Fairview Partners
- Gateway Family Clinic, Ltd.
- Family Practice Medical Center
- Lake Superior Community Health Center
- Neighborhood HealthSource
- Winona Health Services

Medicaid Overall Performance Quality of Care

- CentraCare Family Health – Paynesville Clinic
- CentraCare Family Health – Sauk Centre Clinic
- Foley Medical Center
- Gateway Family Clinic, Ltd.
- Hennepin County Medical Center
- Mankato Clinic
- Mille Lacs Health System
- North Clinic, PA
- Unity Family Healthcare

Excellence in Culturally Competent Care Award

[CentraCare Family Health Center](#) for making significant changes to improve culturally appropriate care and communication with patients from other cultures.

Excellence in Disability Care Award

[CentraCare Family Health Center](#) for making significant changes to remove barriers to care for people with physical disabilities and mental illness, and helping UCare members access preventive services.

“UCare is committed to working closely with valued providers to deliver quality care and outstanding service to each and every UCare member,” said Dr. Lee. “Our Pay for Performance Program in 2015 focused on preventive care and screenings for health risks such as breast and colorectal cancers, as well as antidepressant medication management, child and adolescent well care visits, and monitoring nephropathy and eye exams in members with diabetes. I congratulate each of the 16 clinics and care systems earning this performance recognition this year.”

Performance measures are based on specifications from the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS), Minnesota Department of Health, the Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set, the Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement (ICSI), and MN Community Measurement.

About UCare

UCare (www.ucare.org) is an independent, not-for-profit health plan providing health care and administrative services to members throughout Minnesota. UCare partners with health care providers, counties and community organizations to create and deliver:

- National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA)-[accredited plans](#) for Minnesotans shopping on [MNSure](#).
- [Coverage for adults with disabilities](#).
- [Medicare plans](#) with an “Excellent” NCQA rating, and a [new partnership](#) with Essentia Health in northern Minnesota.
- [Programs for older Minnesotans with Medical Assistance](#) or with [both Medical Assistance and Medicare](#).
- Income-based [Medicaid](#) and [MinnesotaCare](#) coverage for Olmsted County residents.

UCare addresses health care disparities and care access issues through its [UCare Foundation](#) grants and a broad array of community initiatives. UCare has received Top Workplaces honors from the Star Tribune for six consecutive years since the rankings began in 2010.

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