

June 15, 2017

Rooks County Health Center receives Award of Merit for Innovation and Quality Improvement

Rooks County Health Center was among three Kansas hospitals recognized for their leadership and achievement in quality improvement and patient safety by the Kansas Healthcare Collaborative (KHC). The Leadership in Quality Award is sponsored by the KaMMCO Foundation and presented at the Ninth Annual Summit on Quality, jointly hosted by KHC and Kansas Foundation for Medical Care, Inc. in Wichita, May 10.

Salina Regional Health Center, Salina, Kan., received the KHC 2017 Leadership in Quality Award, presented annually to a facility that reflects KHC's vision for improving the health of populations, enhancing the experience of patients, and reducing the per capita cost of care. The award included a cash prize of \$5,000 provided by the KaMMCO Foundation.

Awards of Merit were presented to Rooks County Health Center, Plainville, Kan., and Coffeyville Regional Medical Center, Coffeyville, Kan. The three hospitals recognized are among the 117 hospitals

throughout the state that participate in the KHC Hospital Improvement Innovation Network.

Representatives from all three hospitals received awards, presented by Kendra Tinsley, KHC executive director and Daniel Suiter, MD, chairman of the KaMMCO Foundation board of directors.

"KaMMCO and KHC are proud to recognize and to reward the successful efforts of Kansas health care providers," said Suiter. "By focusing on key priorities and tracking specific improvement activities, our hospitals are delivering safe, quality-driven and highly reliable patient-centered care. We applaud the work of our dedicated and innovative hospital employees. On a daily basis they seek to improve the health of



Pictured on front row left to right: Pam Harmon, Avery St. Peter, Nancy Sterling, Michele Hinger, Dr. Beth Oller. Back row: Frank Rajewski, Kendra Tinsley, Dr. Daniel Suiter, Dr. Lynn Fisher and Stephanie Bjornstad.

their friends and neighbors in their communities. They are ever-aware of the lives they are touching and the difference they are making with every single patient.”

Tinsley said, “The Leadership in Quality award was established to recognize individuals and organizations in Kansas who dedicate time, energy and talent to ensure safe, quality care for Kansas patients. Today, we celebrate these hospitals and providers who exemplify that effort.”

The 2017 Leadership in Quality Award winner

Salina Regional Health Center (SRHC) was recognized for its efforts to make fall prevention a priority, particularly falls by unassisted patients. Setting continual measurement and performance improvement initiatives, SRHC added repeated education on fall precaution for current staff and newly-hired nursing staff. Nursing leadership set up monthly reviews of the fall prevention data, looking for trends and undertaking initiatives to lower the numbers. In early 2015, SRHC showed a marked improvement, with 47 percent fewer falls. With implementation of video monitoring and increased patient and family education, SRHC tracked a 25 percent reduction in unattended falls within 12 months. By late 2016, there had been another 50 percent reduction in patient falls.

“This kind of change in culture and resulting success, implemented through ongoing process management and improvement efforts, exemplifies the goals Kansas Healthcare Collaborative has set with the Leadership in Quality Award,” said Tinsley. “Salina Regional Health Center’s prioritization of patient safety and quality by the reduction of falls in their facility has earned them this recognition.”

Two Kansas hospitals received Awards of Merit

Rooks County Health Center

Rooks County Health Center (RCH) in Plainville, Kan., is now in its 62nd year of service to Northwest Kansas. Four years ago, RCH added the services of a labor doula and lactation consultant. The services were offered free-of-charge to RCH obstetrics clients and anyone in the surrounding communities.

RCH also adopted the standard “No elective deliveries prior to 39 weeks gestation.” This guideline highlights the importance of allowing babies to reach 39 weeks gestation through the elimination of elective labor inductions and cesarean sections. By helping educate providers on the significant long-term benefits to newborns, the standard is now fully accepted with 100 percent compliance for the past four years. The overall number of C-sections has been reduced from 26 percent to 10 percent. Meanwhile, RCH has doubled the number of deliveries while decreasing the number of infant transfers from the facility.

Additionally, the number of babies being breastfed has increased. Childbirth classes, lactation visits and doula training also have increased.

“By promoting cultural changes over the last four years, RCH has doubled its deliveries, has adopted a 100 percent acceptance of the policy of no elective deliveries before 39 weeks gestation, and made the hospital a safer and more welcoming place for patients, families and the newest members of the county,” Tinsley said.

Coffeyville Regional Medical Center

Coffeyville Regional Medical Center (CRMC) serves a community with one of the poorest health rankings (by county) in the state. Its service population is a high risk, vulnerable, and statistically “unhealthy” patient population where there is a lack of resources for the socioeconomically-challenged patients. These needs include child care, transportation, access to healthy food options, personal care attendants and, often, basic human needs. These problems were compounded with the closure of the nearby Independence hospital in 2016.

CRMC took on these challenges by making quality improvement, patient safety and patient experience leading priorities both within and beyond the walls of the facility, including work with KHC, its Practice Transformation Network and other organizations providing opportunities to learn new evidence-based best practices and reliable standards.

CRMC created a Patient Family Advisory Council (PFAC) in 2016, with monthly meetings of recently discharged patients and caregivers committed to improving the patient experience, adding a PFAC representative to the board, and creating a new Quality Committee, in order to transparently focus on critical performance improvement.

“CRMC has worked to generate a culture of patient safety, quality improvement and high reliability. This includes a belief that the future of health care is collaboration. As a result, it has found new ways to stay in touch with the patient experience and improve the health of a health-challenged community,” Tinsley said.

The three hospitals were honored at the Summit on Quality Award Luncheon. Next year’s Tenth Annual Summit on Quality will be held May 4, 2018, in Wichita.

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to help
support the
Rooks
County
Healthcare
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Congratulations to Cricket Rice. She has been selected as a 2017 Kansas Health Care Scholarship honorable mention recipient in the Kansas Association of Health Care Executives category. There were 145 applications reviewed, 34 were awarded scholarships and a small number received honorable mention.

Cricket is taking online courses to earn a Master's degree in Healthcare Administration with Ohio University, where she has a 4.0 grade point average.

Cricket's letter from Benjamin Anderson, Chair of the KHERF Board of Directors, stated that her application showed dedication to patients, leadership, and a desire to excel. Congratulations Cricket!

Paradise Creek Festival & Rodeo Weekend

It seems like nearly everyone was involved in this year's festival! RCH Auxiliary was busy with another very successful pie sale at the Scout House. RCH had a "Hometown Proud" float in the parade, sporting a big banner with a photo of the new monument at the Anderson Park. Doctors Without Delay sponsored the popular kids boot scramble at the rodeo.

The Rooks County Healthcare Foundation hosted their first ever Duck Dive. There were 435 plastic ducks shot out of a cannon into the Plainville City Pool!

Congratulations to the winners Tracy Rudman, 1st; Charlie & Kathy Ramsay, 2nd; Tony McReynolds, 3rd; and Karen Hageman won the "wildest duck" prize.



This picture shows the tip of the cannon is still smoking as the ducks fly towards the pool.

What a great weekend with the community!

Bike Across Kansas



The Auxiliary Snack Shack is set up and ready for the snacks and volunteers.

The RCH Auxiliary served pies, popcorn treats, brownies, trail mixes and other snacks to Bike Across Kansas participants in Plainville on Monday, June 12. It was very interesting to visit with the riders and their supporters about their week long adventure. This fundraiser was also did very well.

The Auxiliary is raising \$10,000 to support Phase 2 of the RCH Rehab Expansion Project.

June Employee of the Month

Congratulations to Elizabeth Hyde. She is the June Employee of the Month! Elizabeth was nominated by Naomi Carter. She has worked at RCH as a CNA since 2009.



**Fresh, High Quality Nuts, Dried Fruits,
Fine Chocolates, Candies, Mixes
Hosted by RCH Auxiliary**

**WHEN: Tuesday, June 27, 2017
7 a.m. to 6 p.m.**

WHERE: Rooks County Health Center Main Lobby

 Lunch Menu 

Thursday, June 15

Patty melt, seasoned curly fries, tossed salad, peanut butter sheet cake

Friday, June 16

Deep dish pizza, tossed salad, poke turtle brownies

Saturday, June 17

Chicken strips, cheesy rice, frosted cookies, ice cream

Sunday, June 18 – Happy Father’s Day

Pork dinner, mashed potatoes/gravy, buttered corn, tossed salad, and cherry pie

Monday, June 19

Spaghetti with meat sauce, tossed salad, garlic bread stick, ice cream bar

Tuesday, June 20

Tater tot casserole, buttered corn, tossed salad, “surprise cake”

Wednesday, June 21

Bistro chicken salad, vegetables & dip, potato chips, brownies

Thursday, June 22

Hamburger streaks, baked potato, tossed salad, sherbet

Friday, June 23

Crispy fried chicken BLT, onion rings, tossed salad, cherry Texas sheetcake

Saturday, June 24

Shepherd’s pie, honey butter biscuits, cookies