



The influential voice of Nebraska's hospitals

For Immediate Release

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NHA honors “The Caring Kind” award recipients

LINCOLN — The Nebraska Hospital Association (NHA) recognized 81 hospital employees October 14, 2016, for their excellence in service by bestowing them with the organization’s prestigious “The Caring Kind” award.

For 37 years, *The Caring Kind* award has been given to Nebraska's most caring and compassionate hospital employees. The award honors outstanding health care employees who have demonstrated compassion for patients, cooperation with co-workers and dedication to excellence in their job responsibilities.

“It is such an honor for me to meet The Caring Kind award recipients each year. They demonstrate the kindness, caring, dedication and commitment to their hospitals which is why they were awarded this recognition,” NHA President Laura J. Redoutey, FACHE, said.

Hospitals across the state each select one The Caring Kind award recipient from within their respective institutions to be recognized during the NHA Annual Convention.

“I felt very proud in receiving *The Caring Kind* Award. The ability to be able to have a positive impact on our hospital is something that I strive for every day and being recognized for it is a great honor. I am thankful for all of my coworkers, patients, the community and those who visit our hospital for giving me the opportunity to serve them. I am excited for the future and the opportunity to keep helping our caretakers and patients,” stated Andrew Contreras, who was *The Caring Kind* recipient from Providence Medical Center in Wayne, Nebraska.



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More than 2,280 dedicated health care professionals have received this award since its inception in 1979. This year, 81 employees were honored before nearly 500 people in attendance at *The Caring Kind Awards Luncheon* held at Embassy Suites Omaha-La Vista Hotel & Conference Center in La Vista.

The event showcases the exemplary work and care hospital employees provide every day throughout the year. Every employee plays a critical role in providing high-quality, cost-effective treatment and ensuring the safety of themselves, their co-workers and patients each and every day.

These honorees are star performers through their dedication to patients and teamwork, ensuring that care is safe, quality-driven and cost-effective for consumers, as well as for the organizations they represent.

The NHA would like to congratulate the following Caring Kind recipients:

- Francisca Acosta-Carlson, MD
 - Lexington Regional Health Center, Lexington
- Darley J. Adams, BSN, RN
 - Boys Town Nat'l Research Hospital, Omaha
- Calvin Alder
 - Rock County Hospital, Bassett
- Shelly Amack, RN
 - Henderson Health Care, Henderson
- Marcus Anderson, PharmD
 - Tri Valley Health System, Cambridge
- Mary Arthur, RN
 - Great Plains Health, North Platte
- Marcus Augustin, CPA
 - Annie Jeffrey Memorial County Health Center, Osceola
- Starlene Benorden, RN
 - Fillmore County Hospital, Geneva
- Diane Blair



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- CHI Health Plainview, Plainview
- Richard Bohaty
 - Saunders Medical Center, Wahoo
- Becky Brabec
 - CHI Health Schuyler, Schuyler
- Sandi Brennan, CPC-A
 - Nebraska Methodist Hospital, Omaha
- Nicole Briggs, RN, BSN
 - Memorial Health Care Systems, Seward
- Mary Bunger, RN, BSN
 - Kearney County Health Services, Minden
- Andrew Carlson
 - Butler County Health Care Center, David City
- Andrew Contreras
 - Providence Medical Center, Wayne
- Mollie Davis, RN
 - Community Medical Center, Inc., Falls City
- Matt Emanuel
 - St. Francis Memorial Hospital, West Point
- Arneil Encarnacion, MT (ASCP)
 - Pender Community Hospital, Pender
- Tanya Farrenkopf, RN
 - Morrill County Community Hospital, Bridgeport
- Marsha Fields
 - VA NE-Western IA Health Care System, Omaha
- Ellison Fuchtman, RN
 - Avera Creighton Hospital, Creighton
- Carrie Gauger, RN, BSN
 - Columbus Community Hospital, Columbus



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- Chris Glaser
 - Community Memorial Hospital, Syracuse
- Jennifer Guy, BSN, RNC
 - Children's Hospital & Medical Center, Omaha
- Roberta Haarhues, RN, BSN
 - Pawnee Co Mem Hospital & Rural Health Clinic, Pawnee City
- Carol A. Hamik, RN, BSN, CPN, CPSTI
 - Mary Lanning Healthcare, Hastings
- Jordan Hammerlun, RN
 - Chase County Community Hospital, Imperial
- Erin Hartman, BSN, RN, CEN, SANE-A
 - Nebraska Medicine, Omaha
- Mary Haun, LPN
 - Avera St. Anthony's Hospital, O'Neill
- Erica Hilbers, RN, BSN
 - Oakland Mercy Hospital, Oakland
- Russell Hill
 - CHI Health Good Samaritan, Kearney
- Tammy Howell
 - Antelope Memorial Hospital, Neligh
- Arlene Hughes, RT(R)
 - Valley County Health System, Ord
- Patti Jacobson
 - Beatrice Community Hospital & Health Center, Beatrice
- Wendy Johnson
 - CHI Health Immanuel, Omaha
- Donna Jorgensen, RN
 - Litzenberg Memorial County Hospital, Central City
- Robin Kappler, RN



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- Bryan Health, Lincoln
- Jenny Kearney, MS, RD, LMNT, CDE
 - CHI Health St. Mary's, Nebraska City
- Peggy Kjar
 - Cozad Community Hospital, Cozad
- Anthony Kroeger, RN
 - CHI Health St. Francis, Grand Island
- Scott Krohn
 - Osmond General Hospital, Osmond
- Julie Krotzinger, RN, BSN
 - Brodstone Memorial Hospital, Superior
- Deb Kuhlman, CNA
 - CHI Health CUMC - Bergan Mercy, Omaha
- Deb Lauer, MT
 - Brown County Hospital, Ainsworth
- Stacie Marquez, CNA
 - Ogallala Community Hospital, Ogallala
- Amy Martin, MPT
 - Jefferson Community Health Center, Fairbury
- Shannon McDonald, RN, CAPA
 - Nebraska Orthopaedic Hospital, Omaha
- Susan Mendez-Eastman, RN, CWCN, CPSN
 - Nebraska Medicine, Bellevue
- Laurianne Michael, RN, BSN
 - CHI Health Lakeside, Omaha
- Heidi Mussack, RN, BSN
 - Memorial Community Hospital & Health System, Blair
- Madison E. Nitsch, OTR/L, LAT, ATC
 - Chadron Community Hospital & Health Services, Chadron



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- Angela Norman, RN
 - Select Specialty Hospital - Omaha
- Mary Ohrtman
 - Box Butte General Hospital, Alliance
- Rita Parrish
 - Johnson County Hospital, Tecumseh
- Laura Rademacher, BSN
 - CHI Health CUMC, Omaha
- Tammy Reigle, CPEHR, CPHIT
 - Boone County Health Center, Albion
- Laurie Reynolds
 - Regional West Health Services, Scottsbluff
- Jamie Richards, RN
 - Phelps Memorial Health Center, Holdrege
- Jane Robison, CNA
 - Harlan County Health System, Alma
- Amy Rock, MLT
 - Franklin County Memorial Hospital, Franklin
- Anthony E. Rodewald, RP, PharmD
 - Community Hospital, McCook
- Tyra Rohlf, MSW
 - CHI Health Midlands, Papillion
- Marian Rojas, RN
 - Regional West Garden County, Oshkosh
- Roxanne Schaaf, CPhT
 - West Holt Medical Services, Atkinson
- Patricia Sheets, CNA
 - Kearney Regional Medical Center, Kearney
- Amanda Shelden, RN, MSN, MHA



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- Nebraska Spine Hospital LLC, Omaha
- Jenny Simmons, RN, BSN
 - Faith Regional Health Services, Norfolk
- Karen Sommerer, LPN
 - Fremont Health, Fremont
- Gillian Sorensen, RN
 - Methodist Women's Hospital, Omaha
- Gordon Steffen
 - York General Health Care Services, York
- Mandy Steuer
 - Crete Area Medical Center, Crete
- Lori Stonehocker, DO
 - Dundy County Hospital, Benkelman
- Mel Tucker
 - Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital, Lincoln
- Courtney Turan, CMT
 - Thayer County Health Services, Hebron
- Virginia Vinson
 - Nemaha County Hospital, Auburn
- Katherine Wardyn
 - Howard County Medical Center, St. Paul
- Samantha Wood, RN
 - Memorial Community Health, Aurora
- Kathy Wright
 - Gordon Memorial Hospital, Gordon
- Sergey Yasevich
 - CHI Health St. Elizabeth, Lincoln
- Ardy Zalesky
 - Sidney Regional Medical Center, Sidney



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The Nebraska Hospital Association is the unified voice for Nebraska's hospitals and health systems. The association offers collaborative leadership, assisting its members to provide comprehensive care to their communities, improving the health status of those communities. For more information, visit the NHA website at www.NebraskaHospitals.org.

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