
Harrison County Community Hospital Receives National Recognition

Bethany, Missouri

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Harrison County Community Hospital has received national recognition for an innovative approach to Post-Acute Care that supports a patient's continued recovery from illness or management of a chronic illness or disability. Harrison County Community Hospital is committed to keeping pace with health care transformation, which is key to sustaining access to health services for the community. The National Rural Health Resource Center (The Center) and the Missouri Office of Rural Health and Primary Care recognized Harrison County Community Hospital for their interdisciplinary Transitions of Care team to improve the discharge process, enhance communication between patients, healthcare providers, and other caregivers and to reduce the likelihood of readmission within thirty days.

Critical Access Hospital Recognition was established by The Center and the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) to recognize the excellent work in critical access hospitals (CAHs) and other rural safety net providers throughout the country. The recognition shares excellence and innovation, and honors the achievements.

Three states were chosen for CAH Recognition in Innovative Post-Acute Care. "The achievement in post-acute care initiatives by CAHs is impressive," stated Sally Buck, Chief Executive Officer at The Center. "It reflects the innovation required to address unique population health needs in rural communities. Providing services locally benefits the patient, the overall community, and enhances CAH performance outcomes."

Health care delivered in rural communities is affordable, high quality and necessary to the good health of the entire community. Tina Gillespie, CEO, said, "HCCH has developed an innovative care team to help patients transition to home safely. Our goal is to reduce or eliminate the need for rehospitalizations and to keep the patient in their own home for treatment rather than in the hospital setting." "Harrison County Community Hospital is a valuable asset to the health care system. Through their excellent work, patients are receiving quality care close to home. By using Population Health Management, high quality care outcomes are being achieved while reducing avoidable health care costs. Patients receive education throughout the community through long-term care facility care coordination, local retail pharmacy program, rural clinics integration, and hospital population follow-up care," stated Sara Davenport, Chief, from the Office of Rural Health and Primary Care.