



News Release

Contact: Amy Blaser, Vice President

Phone: (402) 562-3371

Email: aebblaser@columbushosp.org

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CCH Receives Pathway to Excellence Designation as a Preferred Employer for Nurses

For Immediate Release

(COLUMBUS, Neb.) – Columbus Community Hospital (CCH) was recently designated as a Pathway to Excellence organization through the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC).

The ANCC is a subsidiary of the American Nurses Association (ANA) that promotes excellence in nursing and health care. Its credentialing program, Pathway to Excellence, recognizes health care organizations that commit to creating a positive working environment for nurses.

According to the ANCC, the Pathway to Excellence program is the “premier designation for healthy work environments” that recognizes “health care organizations that demonstrate a commitment to establishing the foundation of a healthy workplace for staff.”

Health care organizations that receive Pathway designation have to prove that they focus on policies that support nurses in the workplace. They do this through an online nurse survey and application process. CCH started its Pathway to Excellence application process in 2017.

“Our journey toward Pathway to Excellence designation has been a long one, but I believe it was worth it. We learned so much along the way,” said Dorothy Bybee, RN, MSN/MBA-HC, NEA-BC, CCH’s vice president of Nursing and Patient Care Services.

Pathway to Excellence-designated hospitals have to prove that they offer their nurses a safe and healthy work environment, professional development opportunities, competitive wages, recognition for achievements and strong leadership.

They must also prove that they have a shared governance structure that allows nurses to be directly involved in decision-making and practice effective communication that improves conflict management and increases patient safety. Additionally, they must provide a culture of collaboration where a healthy work-life balance is prioritized.

“We are honored to have received Pathway to Excellence designation, because it speaks to the high-quality working environment we provide, not only for our nurses, but for all of our staff and physicians,” said Mike Hansen, CCH president and CEO. “A positive working environment



not only benefits our staff, it benefits our patients too, because it means we're able to retain the best and the brightest nurses and staff here in our community."

To learn more about this important recognition and CCH's commitment to providing a positive working environment for its nursing staff, visit www.columbushosp.org.

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