



**COMMUNITY CARE  
NETWORK OF KANSAS**  
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## **17 Kansas Health Centers Receive Quality Awards**

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TOPEKA – Recognizing health centers for notable quality improvement achievements is an annual event for the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). There is nothing routine other than the time of year, as the agency identifies federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) and health center look-alikes (LALs) for superior healthcare delivery and clinic operations.

Like every other facet of healthcare in today’s environment, the COVID-19 pandemic has changed the Community Health Quality Recognition program as well. Three new categories related to how well health centers are responding to COVID-19 were added to the standard quality improvement awards for achievements in access, quality, health equity, and health information technology (HIT).

Kansas health centers tend to fare well compared to their almost 1,400 peer clinics across the country. 2021 was no exception. Seventeen health centers were singled out for their accomplishments – many in a single category, others in multiple.

PrairieStar Health Center in Hutchinson, for example, truly was a star on the prairie. HRSA awarded the health center six different recognition badges, including a gold badge as a Health Center Quality Leader. The gold designation signified PrairieStar was in the top 10% of the country in terms of best overall clinical quality measure performance.

According to Mona Broomfield, the health center’s Chief Quality Officer: “Quality care is central to all departments for all our patients. We strive not to meet our patients’ expectations but to exceed them.”

Another health center, First Care Clinic in Hays, was named a National Quality Leader for its heart health services. Given to the top 1% to 2% of all health centers, First Care was one of only 17 nationwide to earn the designation.

“To be recognized as a quality leader is quite an achievement,” said Bryan Brady, First Care CEO. “In spite of all the challenges the past year presented, our staff delivered high-quality, patient-centered care that our patients deserve, and we are very proud of this accomplishment.”

First Care also earned a gold Health Center Quality Leader badge.

“Our goal at First Care Clinic is to provide high-quality, comprehensive care in an integrated setting,” said Medical Director Dr. Christine Fisher. “This improves the lives of the patients we serve.”

All Kansas health centers are Community Care Network of Kansas members. Community Care CEO Denise Cyzman said she was not surprised by the number of quality recognition badges awarded.

“Year after year, these health centers establish high standards for patient care and clinic operations – and exceed them regularly,” Cyzman said. “The COVID-19 pandemic has not detracted from that commitment to excellence.”

Kansas Community Health Quality Recognition awardees and badges earned:

- **Atchison Community Health Center**, Advancing HIT for Quality, COVID-19 Data Reporter;
- **Community Health Center in Cowley County**, Advancing HIT for Quality, COVID-19 Data Reporter, Patient Centered Medical Home;
- **Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas**, Advancing HIT for Quality, COVID-19 Data Reporter, Patient Centered Medical Home, COVID-19 Testing;
- **First Care Clinic**, Patient Centered Medical Home, National Quality Leader (Heart Health), Health Center Quality Leader (gold)
- **Flint Hills Community Health Center**, Patient Centered Medical Home;
- **Genesis Family Health**, Advancing HIT for Quality, COVID-19 Testing;
- **GraceMed Health Clinic**, Advancing HIT for Quality, Patient Centered Medical Home;
- **Health Ministries Clinic**, Advancing HIT for Quality, COVID-19 Data Reporter, Patient Centered Medical Home, Health Center Quality Award (bronze);
- **Health Partnership Clinic**, Advancing HIT for Quality, COVID-19 Data Reporter, Patient Centered Medical Home, Health Center Quality Award (silver);
- **HealthCore Clinic**, Advancing HIT for Quality, COVID-19 Data Reporter;
- **Heart of Kansas Family Health Care**, Advancing HIT for Quality, Patient Centered Medical Home, Access Enhancer, Health Disparities Reducer;

- **Hoxie Medical Clinic**, Advancing HIT for Quality, Patient Centered Medical Home;
- **Hunter Health**, Patient Centered Medical Home;
- **Konza Prairie Community Health Center**, Advancing HIT for Quality, Health Center Quality Award (gold);
- **PrairieStar Health Center**, Advancing HIT for Quality, COVID-19 Data Reporter, Patient Centered Medical Home, Health Center Quality Leader (gold), Access Enhancer, Health Disparities Reducer;
- **Salina Family Healthcare Center**, Patient Centered Medical Home, COVID-19 Vaccinations; and
- **Vibrant Health**, Patient Centered Medical Home.

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*About Community Care Clinic of Kansas: Community Care exists to achieve equitable access to high-quality, whole-person care for all Kansans, regardless of ability to pay. As the Primary Care Association (PCA) for Kansas, Community Care supports and strengthens its members through advocacy, education and communication. Community Care’s diverse membership includes Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), and Look-Alikes (LALs), as well as public and private nonprofit Community-Based Primary Care Clinics (CBPCCs) and Rural Health Clinics (RHCs).*