



The influential voice of Nebraska's hospitals

## ***For Immediate Release***

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December 16, 2021

## **NHA honors Nebraska hospital employees with “The Caring Kind” award**

LINCOLN, NEB. — The Nebraska Hospital Association (NHA) has recognized 76 Nebraska member hospital employees for their excellence in service by bestowing them with the organization’s prestigious “The Caring Kind” award.

For more than 40 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.

“This award demonstrates the kindness, caring, dedication and commitment these individuals make to their hospitals which is why they were awarded this very special recognition,” commented Laura J. Redoutey, NHA President. “As I reflect over the past 21 years, it’s been a true honor and privilege to present this award.”

“The Caring Kind award has set itself apart as an award that recognizes our Nebraska health care workers and their commitment to the best in patient care,” remarked Jeremy Nordquist, incoming NHA President. “I look forward to continuing this proud tradition for many years to come.”

Hospitals across the state each select one *The Caring Kind* award recipient from within their respective institutions to be recognized. Typically, this award is given out at a luncheon as part of the NHA Annual Convention; however, due to COVID-19 restrictions, the awards were sent out to the recipients and a special video was created to honor the winners. More than 2,600 caring, skilled and dedicated health care professionals have received this award since its inception in 1979.

The NHA congratulates The Caring Kind award recipients for 2021:

Heather Webster - Annie Jeffrey Memorial County Health Center, Osceola  
Crystal Smith - Antelope Memorial Hospital, Neligh  
Shelly Carstens - Avera Creighton Hospital, Creighton  
Jodi Loecker - Avera St. Anthony's Hospital, O' Neill  
Leann Fossler - Beatrice Community Hospital & Health Center, Beatrice  
Steve Wooden - Boone County Health Center, Albion  
Jasmine Clarke - Box Butte General Hospital, Alliance  
Michael Dawson - Boys Town National Research Hospital, Omaha  
Molly Rempe - Brodstone Memorial Hospital, Superior  
Jennifer Green - Brown County Hospital, Ainsworth  
Sarah Kelly - Bryan Health, Lincoln  
Julie Hoffman - Butler County Health Care Center, David City  
Dustin Eggleston - Chadron Community Hospital & Health Services, Chadron  
Denika Whitlow - CHI Health Creighton University Medical Center - Bergan Mercy, Omaha  
Maribel Galindo - CHI Health Good Samaritan, Kearney  
Aleigh Crneckiy - CHI Health Immanuel, Omaha  
Cindy Garry - CHI Health Lakeside, Omaha  
Mary "Karen" Knudson - CHI Health Midlands, Papillion  
Jeffrey Gonzalez - CHI Health Nebraska Heart, Lincoln  
Jan Consuelo - CHI Health Plainview, Plainview  
Christina Eaton - CHI Health Schuyler, Schuyler  
Jon Stoltenberg - CHI Health St. Elizabeth, Lincoln  
Kathy Lierman - CHI Health St. Francis, Grand Island  
Nicole Essink - CHI Health St. Mary's, Nebraska City  
Chris North - Children's Hospital & Medical Center, Omaha  
Jerrad Swanson - Columbus Community Hospital, Columbus  
Tim Garniss - Community Hospital, McCook  
Linda Cochran - Community Medical Center, Inc., Falls City  
Alison Feik - Cozad Community Health System, Cozad  
Anna Warners - Crete Area Medical Center, Crete  
Kathy Pursley - Dundy County Hospital, Benkelman  
Kristen Colsden - Faith Regional Health Services, Norfolk  
Kimberly Schroeder - Fillmore County Hospital, Geneva  
Casey Koch - Franciscan Healthcare, West Point  
Alphe Manalili - Friend Community Healthcare System, Friend  
Carolyn Evenson - Gothenburg Health, Gothenburg  
Brenda Lee - Great Plains Health, North Platte  
Carla Mapes - Harlan County Health System, Alma  
Michelle Beed - Henderson Health Care, Henderson  
Kimberly Wilson - Howard County Medical Center, Saint Paul  
Kyle Warneke - Jefferson Community Health & Life, Fairbury  
Alice McFadden - Jennie M Melham Memorial Medical Center, Broken Bow  
Jordan Lang - Johnson County Hospital, Tecumseh  
Rebecca Seybold - Kearney County Health Services, Minden  
Earl Borgmann - Kearney Regional Medical Center, Kearney  
Brenna Bartruff - Lexington Regional Health Center, Lexington  
Kristi Rocole - Madonna Rehabilitation Hospitals, Lincoln

Rod Goodin - Mary Lanning Healthcare, Hastings  
Leeta Christie - Memorial Community Health, Aurora  
Stephanie Beckman - Memorial Community Hospital & Health System, Blair  
Sam Smetter - Memorial Health Care Systems, Seward  
Chelsie Edwards - Merrick Medical Center, Central City  
Linda Heidemann - Methodist Fremont Health, Fremont  
Sarah Brooks - Methodist Women's Hospital, Elkhorn  
Cherry Cooper - Morrill County Community Hospital, Bridgeport  
Ignacio Trujillo - Nebraska Medicine, Omaha  
Michael McMahon - Nebraska Methodist Hospital, Omaha  
Jessica Womochil - Nemaha County Hospital, Auburn  
Linda Baldwin - Ogallala Community Hospital, Ogallala  
Cathy Ertzner - OrthoNebraska, Omaha  
Jade Klein - Osmond General Hospital, Osmond  
Kelly Findlay - Pawnee County Memorial Hospital, Pawnee City  
Molly Hansen - Pender Community Hospital, Pender  
Crystal Swearingen - Phelps Memorial Health Center, Holdrege  
Shawn Ford - Providence Medical Center, Wayne  
Duane Kirch - Regional West Garden County, Oshkosh  
Gabrielle Barrett - Regional West Health Services, Scottsbluff  
Heather Doke - Rock County Hospital, Bassett  
Ronda Thomson - Saunders Medical Center, Wahoo  
Adam Peetz - Sidney Regional Medical Center, Sidney  
James Steckelberg - Syracuse Area Health, Syracuse  
Lavonna Sloane - Thayer County Health Services, Hebron  
Rena Farr - Tri Valley Health System, Cambridge  
Laci Shoemaker - Valley County Health System, Ord  
Stephanie McGrew - West Holt Medical Services, Atkinson  
Chris Payne - York General, York

The Nebraska Hospital Association's mission is to serve its members by being the trusted leader to improve the health, wellbeing and quality of life of all Nebraskans. Its vision is to be the state's most influential, trusted and respected voice in health care policy and advocacy, a valued resource for information and knowledge and a leader in patient safety.

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