



Press Release

For Immediate Release
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Sunflower Health Network Celebrates 20th Anniversary

(October 2, 2014) – The 17 member, 14 county Sunflower Health Network that primarily serves north central Kansas will celebrate 20 years of incorporation in November. The not-for-profit organization works to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of health care delivery within the region. The organization also provides access to group purchasing, service contracts, physician recruitment, department director education, health insurance and a shared staff pool.

Research for a rural health network in north central Kansas first began in 1993 on the heels of President Bill Clinton's efforts to implement universal health insurance for all Americans. While the measure was eventually defeated, area hospitals still saw value in developing a network that could focus on managed care and integration, finance, planning, information systems, shared technology and services and recruitment and retention.

The Sunflower Health Network was selected as the Rural Health Network of the Year in 2011 by the National Cooperative of Health Networks. The network also has conducted several strategic plans impacting public health, provided multiple professional development initiatives

and has been instrumental in attracting a number of physicians and mid-level practitioners to the region.

Sunflower Health Network members include Anthony Medical Center, Clay County Medical Center, Cloud County Health Center, Ellsworth County Medical Center, Herington Municipal Hospital, Hospital District #1 of Rice County, Jewell County Hospital, Lincoln County Hospital, Lindsborg Community Hospital, Memorial Health System (Abilene), Mitchell County Hospital Health Systems, Osborne County Memorial Hospital, Ottawa County Health Center, Republic County Hospital, Salina Regional Health Center, Smith County Memorial Hospital and the Central Kansas Foundation.

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