

TO MEDIA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

INDEPENDENCE HEALTH SYSTEM REMAINS TOP IN WELLNESS

Westmoreland-area program lauded among healthcare sector nationally

GREENSBURG, PA, July 11, 2023 ...Independence Health System continues to be recognized as a leader in employee wellness, with its human resources programs once again honored by the Best and Brightest Program®. This is the seventh consecutive year Independence Health System Westmoreland area is ranked among the **Nation's Best and Brightest in Wellness** winning companies in a program sponsored by the National Association for Business Resources. Only companies that distinguish themselves as having the most innovative wellness, well-being and human resource practices are bestowed this honor in 2023. This demonstrated success year over year as a national honoree within the healthcare sector will be advanced in the coming months as Independence Health System enhances employee engagement systemwide.

The Nation's Best and Brightest in Wellness winning companies were evaluated by an assessment created and administered by a leading wellness research firm. Each entry was examined statistically for quantitative and qualitative data. Each survey was scored on a point system based upon criteria to benchmark and improve wellness program effectiveness. They include outcomes, analysis, tracking, participation and incentives, benefits and programs, leadership, employee input, culture and environment.

“Those companies that made the list as well as those companies that continue to make the list are truly remarkable. Given today’s need for mental health, well-being, and the further issues related to the pandemic, these companies have proven they are superior to market conditions. They are elite thinkers and this honor demonstrates their commitment to excellence,” said Jennifer Kluge, President and CEO of NABR and The Best and Brightest Program.

Independence Health System-Westmoreland area is also recognized among the Healthiest Employers in Western Pennsylvania, and as a Healthiest 100 Workplace in America, in an awards program presented by Healthiest Employer®.

“Being recognized for having a culture of wellness is gratifying but it is not the end, but merely a validation of our journey,” noted Laurie English, Independence Health System Senior Vice President of Human Resources. “Employee health and wellness are integral to maintaining a vibrant workforce.”

“Independence Health System is committed to the well-being of every team member across our health care organization,” added Tom Genevro, Independence Health System Chief Human Resources Officer. “Our programs support the physical, mental, emotional, social and financial health of our employees and we will continue to enhance and refine these offerings as we work together for the benefit of those on our team as well as those in our care.”

Nationally recognized for quality care, Independence Health System comprise Butler Memorial, Clarion, Frick, Latrobe and Westmoreland Hospitals with a combined bed count of 925. With more than 1,000 physicians and advanced practice providers and 7,300 employees, the System is now the third largest in western Pennsylvania serving a population base of 750,000 in a footprint spanning more than 10 counties.

The System includes tertiary programs that are rated among America’s best for cardiac care and surgery by Healthgrades in its Top 100 and Top 50 designations, and one of only five in Pennsylvania to achieve a five-star rating in cardiac surgery. In similar fashion, the prestigious Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS) bestowed its top three-star rating. Historically, less than 10 percent of programs within the STS data base achieve this elite standing. The hospitals of Independence Health System also have earned a host of accolades from such prestigious outlets and sources as US News and World Report, Newsweek Magazine, the American College of Radiology, the American College of Cardiology, the American College of Surgeons, the Joint Commission, Leapfrog and the American Heart/Stroke Association.

Locally owned and locally controlled, Independence Health System offers its patients low-cost, high-quality care across the care spectrum in such specialties as cardiology, cardiovascular and thoracic

surgery, orthopedics and sports medicine, minimally invasive and robotic surgery, women's health and obstetrics, emergency medicine, behavioral health and primary care. Its network of outpatient centers sees more than 1.2 million visits annually. The homecare division further supports patients at all stages of life with home health and hospice services.

Independence Health System continues to change the healthcare landscape in western Pennsylvania by meeting patient needs through superb physician expertise, outstanding nursing, the latest in technology and programmatic depth.