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**September 5, 2016****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****Alaska Hospitals Receive Quality Health Care Awards**

Anchorage, Alaska, (Sept. 5, 2016) — Mountain-Pacific Quality Health is proud to announce the winners of the 2016 Hospital Quality Awards. The awards were presented to four Alaska hospitals during the Alaska State Hospital and Nursing Home Association (ASHNHA) Annual Conference in Soldotna on September 1, 2016.

Each hospital demonstrated a commitment to providing high-quality patient care. All recipients had to meet eleven quality measures aimed at increasing patient safety and quality of service to qualify for the Quality Achievement Award. Sharon Scudder, Mountain-Pacific's Alaska state director, says her staff celebrates these hospitals and looks forward to another year of excellence in Alaska health care.

"Mountain-Pacific has worked with these exemplary hospitals for many years, and no matter how large or small or urban or rural, it is always amazing to watch the hard work that goes into creating high quality health care that ultimately creates a safer and healthier environment for the patient," said Scudder.

"Health care landscapes are changing, and with the presence of highly infectious diseases affecting our communities and with increased government mandates in reporting, we applaud these hospitals for providing the highest quality of hospital care in Alaska. It most likely rivals or exceeds care you would find throughout the United States."

The four hospitals who received the Quality Achievement Award included:

- Alaska Regional Hospital, Anchorage
- Fairbanks Memorial Hospital, Fairbanks
- SEARHC/Mt. Edgumbe Hospital, Sitka
- Providence Kodiak Island Medical Center, Kodiak

"Receiving the Quality of Achievement Award speaks volumes about the effort and dedication of the employees, medical staff and all of the volunteers at Fairbanks Memorial Hospital and Denali Center," said Dr. Greg Johnson, CEO of Fairbanks Memorial Hospital and Denali Center. "Even during a year of significant transition, there is one thing that has remained constant: the focus on providing quality care to the patients we serve. It's by far the most important thing we do, every day."

"We are thrilled to receive the highest level recognitions that Mountain-Pacific awards to hospitals in recognition of our quality of care and infection prevention programs," said Julie Taylor, Alaska Regional Hospital's CEO. "While I am honored to accept these awards as the hospital's CEO, I do so with the acknowledgement that these achievements are only possible due to the absolute dedication of our caregivers to deliver superior patient-centered care to every patient on every visit."

(More)

All Alaska hospitals are eligible for Hospital Quality Awards. Award-winning hospitals range from small, rural hospitals to large, urban hospitals. Mountain-Pacific will continue to work with Alaska hospitals to help ensure every patient receives the safest, highest quality of care possible.



About Mountain-Pacific—Mountain-Pacific is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation and holds federal and state contracts that allow them to oversee the quality of care for Medicare and Medicaid members. Mountain-Pacific works within its four-state region (Montana, Wyoming, Alaska and Hawaii, which includes the U.S. Pacific Territories of Guam and American Samoa and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) to help improve the delivery of health care and the systems that provide it. Mountain-Pacific’s goal is to increase access to high-quality health care that is affordable, safe and of value to the patients they serve. www.mpqhf.org

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