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News Release

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Community Hospital Certified as Healthy Business Leader

Non-Profit Organization Health Links™ recognizes Community Hospital as a Certified Healthy Business Leader, a top honor!

Mesa County, CO - Community Hospital has been recognized as a Health Links Certified Healthy Business Partner due to their holistic approach to creating a culture of health and safety in the workplace.

Health Links, a nonprofit initiative at the University of Colorado School of Public Health, recognizes businesses around the state for their excellence in workplace health and safety. Health Links assesses businesses via an online assessment tool that benchmarks their health and safety efforts. As a Certified Healthy Business Leader, Community Hospital has been recognized for holding managers and supervisors accountable for supporting health and safety, integrating health and safety efforts, actively preventing workplace injuries, and extending health and safety services to employee spouses, domestic partners, dependents, and the greater community.

At Community Hospital, employee wellness is a part of the organizational culture. All employees, regardless of full-time or part-time status, are introduced to the concept of wellness during New Employee Orientation. “Wellness is more than just a strategy that we implement, it is a practice we want employees to embrace throughout all aspects of their lives,” says Tawny Espinoza, Vice President of Business Development. Building on this foundation, spouses are also encouraged and incentivized to participate at no cost to the employee.

The Community Hospital Wellness Committee drives the success of their interventions and programs. Composed of representatives from different departments and levels of the organization, they work hard to determine employee interests and gather feedback. Various challenges are designed to keep employees and spouses engaged throughout the year. Incentives are provided based on participation. If a family is fully participating in the Wellness Program, it equates to over \$1000 back to the employee in terms of bonuses and premium discounts.

While challenges are fun and engaging, the Community Hospital Wellness Program is tied to the employee benefit plan to ensure the program is outcome-based and helping to drive down costs. These efforts are important for the retention and recruitment of staff. “This program is just another way we demonstrate that employees are our most important asset,” states Espinoza.

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Health Links™ is a nonprofit initiative from the Center for Health, Work and Environment within the Colorado School of Public Health. Health Links™ is made possible through a start-up grant from Pinnacle Assurance and funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and the Hollis Family Trust. For more information, visit www.healthlinkscertified.org or contact Michelle Haan, at Michelle.Haan@healthlinkscertified.org.

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