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Brookings Health Named to Elite Top 20 Rural Community Hospital List

Brookings, S.D. – April 2, 2019 – For the second time in three years, the National Rural Health Association (NRHA) named Brookings Health System as a Top 20 Rural Community Hospital in the nation. The health system will be recognized at an awards ceremony during NRHA's Rural Hospital Innovation Summit on May 9 in Atlanta.

"We are honored to again rank in this elite group of hospitals," said CEO Jason Merkley. "This award reflects our team's hard work, dedication to quality, commitment to the best possible outcomes, and focus on the patient experience. It reinforces our promise to our patients, residents and their families to provide high-quality, compassionate, personalized health care."

The NRHA honors the 20 highest-ranked prospective payment system hospitals in the country based on an evaluation by The Chartis Center for Rural Health using iVantage Health Analytics' Hospital Strength INDEX[®].

Brookings Health scored in top two percent of all rural and community hospitals nationwide in the INDEX[®]. Now in its ninth year, the INDEX leverages 50 rural-relevant indicators across eight pillars of hospital strength (i.e. Inpatient Market Share, Outpatient Market Share, Cost, Charge, Quality, Outcomes, Patient Perspective and Financial Stability) to determine an overall score for each hospital. Each of the INDEX's 50 indicators is culled from publicly-available data sources.

More information about the high-quality of care at Brookings Health System can be found at <u>www.brookingshealth.org/Quality</u>.

About Brookings Health System

Brookings Health System, located in Brookings, South Dakota, includes a 49-bed hospital, the 79bed The Neighborhoods at Brookview nursing home, Brookhaven Estates senior living apartments, Yorkshire Eye Clinic, and medical clinics in Arlington, White and Volga, South Dakota. It is a non-profit, city-owned facility that offers the community a full range of inpatient, outpatient, emergency and extended care services. Brookings Hospital provides local access to doctors in Brookings and offers robotic da Vinci surgery and Mako robotic-arm assisted procedures, making it one of the premier rural community hospitals in South Dakota. For more information about the services offered at Brookings Health System, please call (605) 696-9000 or visit us on the Web at <u>brookingshealth.org</u>.

About NRHA

The National Rural Health Association is a national nonprofit membership organization with more than 20,000 members. The association's mission is to provide leadership on rural health issues. NRHA membership consists of a diverse collection of individuals and organizations, all of whom share the common bond of an interest in rural health.

About The Chartis Group

The Chartis Group provides comprehensive advisory services and analytics to the health care industry. The Chartis Center for Rural Health was formed in 2016 to offer tailored services, performance management solutions, research, and education to rural hospitals and facilities. Learn more at <u>ChartisRural.com</u>.

About iVantage Health Analytics

Based in Newton, Mass., iVantage Health Analytics is a leading provider of performance management, strategic market planning, cost-reduction, and benchmarking solutions for hospitals and health care systems. iVantage analytics and tools are the basis of continuing investment, thought leadership, and insight in the areas of health care policy and research. In 2015, iVantage was acquired by the Chartis Group. Learn more at <u>iVantageHealth.com</u>.

PHOTO: Inpatient Care Nurse Kim Gray covers hospital discharge instructions with Arloine Goodfellow before she returns home. Brookings Health System was named a Top 20 Rural Community Hospital by the National Rural Health Association and scored in the top two percent of all rural community hospitals in the nation. The health system will be recognized during the Rural Hospital Innovation Summit on May 9 in Atlanta.

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