

**NEWS RELEASE**  
**Performance in Kansas Nursing Homes**  
***Three Year Trend - Positive Health and Safety Inspections***

**LAWRENCE, KS March 20, 2017.** Nursing facility inspections are required by federal and state law to ensure that frail elders and vulnerable adults living in nursing homes are provided safe and adequate healthcare and assistance according to standards set by law and regulation. Kansas Advocates for Better Care (KABC) is releasing its annual listing of Kansas nursing facilities which consistently achieve significant compliance with health and safety regulations and have no or a low number of deficiencies cited during state inspections. The nursing facilities listed have five or fewer deficiencies for each of three annual inspection cycles. Health inspections are the only objective, external evaluation of a nursing facility provided by the state for the purpose of assuring the health and safety of adults who reside in them.

Caritas Center, Wichita had zero deficiencies for each of its last four annual inspection cycles. Caritas Center is the only nursing facility out of the 350 Kansas nursing facilities licensed by the state with four consecutive cycles of no deficiencies cited. Facilities in the nursing category include nursing facilities, long-term care units in hospitals, and nursing facilities for mental health.

A total of seven (7) nursing homes appear on the 2016 good performance list. Russell Regional Hospital, Bethel Home, Sterling Presbyterian Manor, Moundridge Manor, Anderson County Hospital, and Larkfield Place join Caritas Center for having five or fewer health and safety deficiencies over the look back period. The period covered includes each facility's three most recent inspection cycles (covering approximately 36 to 45 months). None of the above facilities received deficiencies at the level of "actual harm of a resident", "immediate jeopardy of residents", or "mistreatment of a resident" in the nursing facility. Five (5) of the facilities are not-for-profit corporations and two (2) are for-profit corporations.

By comparison, 68 nursing facilities were on a recently published list for poor performance trends over the same look back period. With 44 of those cited for serious deficiencies of actual harm of residents and higher severity deficient practices. The highest number of deficiencies cited in a single Kansas nursing home during the most recent inspection period was 46. A deficiency is cited when a nursing facility is out of compliance with state or federal health and safety regulations.

The average number of deficiencies cited during inspection of a nursing facility nationally is 7.2 and 10.3 in Kansas. Deficiencies cited may affect one, some, or all persons living in the facility and can range in severity from low to high. Inspection teams are made up of specially trained, licensed nurses. Inspectors also shorter, targeted complaint inspections. Kansas Dept. for Aging & Disability Services (KDADS) conducts inspections.

