



# 2017

## HEALTH TRANSFORMATION AWARDS

TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2017

Presented by

**THE ALLIANCE**  
Employers moving health care forward



### About The Alliance's Health Transformation Awards

The Alliance Board of Directors has selected individuals or organizations to receive The Alliance's Health Transformation Award based on their commitment to moving health care forward for consumers, employers and other purchasers. Individuals and organizations that played a key role in efforts to advance health care were selected for recognition. This is our third year of presenting these awards.

# The 2017 Alliance Health Transfo

## Gundersen Health System

Gundersen Health System has broken the mold of how traditional health care services have been sold and delivered in northwestern Wisconsin.

This is evident by these practices:

- » **Quality Care:** Gundersen Health System is recognized by Healthgrades as one of America's 50 Best Hospitals.
- » **Collaborative Partner:** Gundersen Health System is committed to selling health care differently as they are interested in overall population health versus quantity of services rendered and overall profit. Gundersen is the only system that is designated in all three of The Alliance's *QualityPath* programs (Knee/Hip Replacement, Heart Bypass Surgery and CT and MRI).
- » **Cost-Conscious Decisions:** Gundersen Health System is a physician-led, not-for-profit health system that is interested in returning excess dollars to the consumers of health care rather than the health plan's coffers.
- » **Environmentally Responsible Practices:** Gundersen Health System became the first health system in America to achieve energy independence in October 2014 by producing more energy than they consumed. They have received numerous awards and recognition for their commitment to energy independence, including the Top 25 Excellence Award from Practice Greenhealth for 10 consecutive years.

Gundersen Health System is being recognized for exploring new approaches to delivering care and paying for care. They are improving the quality of care using a systematic, process-oriented approach that can be adapted and implemented by other organizations. And they are collaborating with other organizations to develop solutions to significant health care problems as well as advancing their own understanding of how to engage consumers.



## Miniature Precision Components (MPC)

Miniature Precision Components consistently creates opportunities to engage consumers in decisions about better health and better health care. Based in Walworth, Wis., MPC has nine locations where they produce automotive parts.

Over the years MPC has:

- » Created a robust wellness program that includes:
  - Onsite clinics at two facilities
  - Wellness programs that are accessible to all employees regardless of location or working hours.
  - A wellness "store" where employees can purchase Fitbits, shirts and other items.
- » Proven its ability to help employees adopt healthy behaviors. For example, one employee received the Wisconsin Wellness Council's 2016 Light of Wellness award in the Healthy Behaviors category.
- » Modeled good employee communications through TV monitors located on manufacturing floors and breakrooms.
- » Offered incentives to capture greater savings. Twelve MPC employees have used *QualityPath* for joint replacements, which is the highest participation achieved by any *QualityPath* employer. They enrich *QualityPath* by giving employees up to \$500 to cover mileage, lodging, tolls and parking.

MPC is being honored for advancing the understanding of how to engage consumers in making better decisions about their care, as well as providing extraordinary leadership among employers related to health benefits, specifically by representing employers' interests.



# Information Award Recipients Are:

## OpenNotes®

OpenNotes is a growing national movement that invites patients, families and clinicians to come together and improve communication through shared clinician's notes and fully transparent medical records.



Today, more than 11 million U.S. patients have access to their notes. While federal law mandates a patient's right to access their medical records, including clinician notes, obtaining copies of paper records can be time consuming and in some cases, involve costs for the patient. OpenNotes electronic records provide free easy access with the click of a button.

One early study showed that OpenNotes has the potential to decrease costs, with patients who read their notes doing a better job of managing their medical regimen and taking medication as prescribed. Patients reported feeling more in control of their care, having greater understanding of their medical conditions and being more likely to take their medications as prescribed.

OpenNotes is being recognized for exploring new approaches to delivering care as well as paying for care; improving the quality of care using a systematic, process-oriented approach that can be adapted and implemented by other organizations; collaborating with other organizations to develop solutions; and advancing our understanding of how to engage consumers in making better health care decisions.

## Wisconsin Collaborative for Healthcare Quality (WCHQ)

The Wisconsin Collaborative for Healthcare Quality (WCHQ) is pushing the envelope to measure, publicly report and improve the quality of care for the people of Wisconsin.



In this voluntary effort, funded primarily by providers, WCHQ has made it a priority to meet the needs of purchasers and consumers. They have made changes to measures in their portfolio to accommodate the interests of purchasers. They also recently committed to adopting measures prioritized by a group of purchasers and payers. These measures include specialty measures reported at the individual physician level. Information about specialty care and information about individual physicians is rarely made publicly available.

WCHQ was founded in Wisconsin by Wisconsin based-health systems. They are now exploring the possibility of expanding their efforts to include delivery systems in other states. This could become a venue for publicly reported information for consumers and employers in Illinois and Iowa, which would help members of The Alliance who are located in those areas.

WCHQ is recognized for meeting two award criteria: improving the quality of care using a systematic, process-oriented approach that can be adapted and implemented by other organizations; and collaborating with other organizations to develop innovative solutions to significant health care problems.



## John Nygren, Wisconsin State Representative

Representative John Nygren pushed the state of Wisconsin to recognize the opioid addiction problem before it became a national headline. Rep. John Nygren learned about the high cost of opioid addiction when his daughter nearly died of a heroin overdose. Her struggles with addiction started with the opioid medication OxyContin and eventually led to heroin.

Rep. Nygren started the Heroin, Opiate Prevention and Education (HOPE) Agenda, which has led to significant legislative awareness and policy changes that aim to strengthen Wisconsin efforts to counter the epidemic of opioid abuse. As part of the HOPE Agenda, Rep. Nygren has successfully introduced 17 bills since 2013 to help combat the opioid addiction problem.



These bills have:

- » Enabled first responders to carry overdose antidotes.
- » Significantly increased funding for treatment programs, including the creation of rural treatment programs.
- » Provided immunity for people who report overdoses.
- » Required people to show identification when they pick up opioid prescriptions.
- » Led to policy changes such as the Medical Examining Board's adoption of new guidelines for Wisconsin physicians when prescribing opioids and treating chronic pain.

Rep. Nygren is being honored for improving the quality of care using a systematic, process-oriented approach that can be adapted and implemented by other organizations.



The Alliance moves health care forward by controlling costs, improving quality, and engaging individuals in their health.