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**September 19, 2016****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****Montana Long-term Care Facilities Receive Quality Health Care Awards**

(Billings, Mont.) — Mountain-Pacific Quality Health is proud to announce the winners of the 2016 Nursing Home Quality Awards. Three Montana long-term care facilities met the quality goals set for these awards and will receive their awards during the annual conferences held by the Montana Health Care Association in Helena on September 19 and the Montana Hospital Association in Billings on September 29.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) supports the National Nursing Home Quality Care Collaborative (NNHQCC) through the Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) program. Mountain-Pacific Quality Health is the local facilitator for Montana. The NNHQCC's goals are to instill quality and performance improvement practices, eliminate healthcare-acquired conditions and improve resident satisfaction. As a measure to reflect achievement of these goals, CMS created a "composite score" system. This system assesses quality of care in long-term care facilities and is based on 13 quality measures—the lower the score, the better. The awards are based on each facility's composite score, its licensure with the Office of Healthcare Licensing and Survey (Montana's state survey agency) and its certification with CMS.

"Each facility has shown a dedication to residents and their families by delivering high-quality care," said Christy Fuller, Mountain-Pacific's state director for Montana. "We are proud to present these awards and will continue to partner with Montana's long-term care facilities to help make sure every resident receives the safest, highest quality of care possible."

Two facilities received the Recognition of Excellence Award:

- Kindred Park Place, Great Falls
- Northeast Montana Health Services, Faith Home, Wolf Point

One facility received the Striving Towards Excellence Award:

- Benefis Senior Care, Great Falls

All Montana long-term care facilities are eligible for the Nursing Home Quality Awards. Mountain-Pacific thanks all Montana long-term care facilities for their dedication to providing safe, quality care.

(More)



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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