



MEDIA RELEASE

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KHA Celebrates National Rural Health Day - November 16

In the United States, more than 60 million people – one in five Americans – live and work in rural areas. In Kansas, one in three individuals live in rural areas. Out of the 127 hospitals in Kansas, the United States Census Bureau designates 102 of them as rural.

Kansas rural hospitals serve more than 900,000 Kansans. They provide care 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. They assure that Kansans receive the right care, at the right place, at the right time. They not only care for the health of their communities, but also contribute to the economic fiber of those communities.

Hospitals and health systems are among the state's largest employers and a vital part of the Kansas economy. Annually, Kansas hospitals employ approximately 84,000 people or 4.3 percent of all job holders in the state. Kansas hospitals support the creation of an additional 69,000 jobs in other businesses and industries. Kansas hospitals have a total employment impact of more than 153,000 jobs.

Rural hospitals provide their communities with a remarkable array of quality health care services including emergency, primary, chronic and long-term care, as well as home health, hospice and assisted living. Their relationships with referral and urban hospitals, as well as physician specialists assure access to higher levels of care when those are needed.

Join us on Nov. 16, 2017, to “Celebrate the Power of Rural” and bring to light the unique health care needs that rural citizens face – and showcase the efforts of rural health care providers. Events recognizing National Rural Health Day and “Celebrating the Power of Rural” are being planned throughout the nation. In Kansas, the Kansas Hospital Association is hosting the Rural Health Symposium, Nov. 16-17, in Salina. Today’s rural health care providers are faced with new challenges and fewer resources to address those challenges. The purpose of this symposium is to provide attendees with the skills, ideas and information necessary to survive in the rapidly changing world of rural health care.

The Kansas Hospital Association is a voluntary, non-profit organization existing to be the leading advocate and resource for members. KHA membership includes 218 member facilities, of which 127 are full-service, community hospitals. Founded in 1910, KHA’s vision is: “Optimal Health for Kansans.”

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