



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **NANCY ZIMMERMAN, RN, TO RECEIVE ASSOCIATION'S HIGHEST HONOR**

(Aug. 21, 2019) It is with great pleasure that the Kansas Hospital Association announces Nancy Zimmerman, RN, administrator of Comanche County Hospital in Coldwater, as the recipient of the Charles S. Billings Award. Members of the Kansas Hospital Association will present Zimmerman with the Billings Award on Sept. 5 during the KHA Annual Convention and Trade Show in Wichita.

The Charles S. Billings Award, named after the association's first president, was created in 1971 to recognize distinguished service and outstanding contributions to the field of health care in Kansas. The Kansas Hospital Association reserves this award for those who have shown their commitment, leadership and dedication to that noble pursuit. Zimmerman, the 41<sup>st</sup> recipient of this award, has certainly demonstrated these qualities during her devoted health care career of 50 years.

Zimmerman has served Comanche County Hospital for 44 years as a staff nurse, director of nursing and in 1990, she took on the position of administrator. Her passion for excellence, commitment to community and dedication to rural health care is demonstrated by the excellent patient satisfaction scores received from patients (Rural Health Association Top 20 for Patient Satisfaction, 2017) and accolades from staff (Administrator of the Year Award 2014-2015 from the Kansas Association of Nutrition and Food Service Professionals).

Zimmerman has contributed much of her time, expertise and energies to many important community and state organizations. She serves on the Comanche County Medical Foundation, Advisor to the WEPAC Board, the Executive Council of the South Central Kansas Trauma Council, as well as serving as a Hospital Auxiliary member. The governor appointed her to the State Advisory Council for Trauma. For many years, Nancy formally taught others. She taught First Aid and CPR classes for the American Red

Cross for five years and taught Nurse Aide and Medication Aide Courses for Pratt Community College for 34 years.

Throughout her career, Zimmerman has been actively involved with the Kansas Hospital Association. She has always been there when the association asked, including service on numerous KHA committees including the Council on Education Committee, the KHA Hospital Leadership and Governance Committee, the KHA Convention Committee, and the KHA-PAC Steering Committee.

“Nancy has been a consistent source of thoughtful and common-sense guidance,” said Tom Bell, president and CEO of the Kansas Hospital Association. “Her presence has been so important that many on her team believe their small but mighty hospital would not be there if it weren't for Nancy’s leadership style and thoughtful decision-making process.”

The Kansas Hospital Association is a voluntary, non-profit organization existing to be the leading advocate and resource for members. KHA membership includes 222 member facilities, of which 125 are full-service, community hospitals. Founded in 1910, KHA’s vision is Optimal Health for Kansas.

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