



*Minnesota Hospital Association*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Local hospital leaders recognized by Minnesota Hospital Association for completing comprehensive certification training**

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Eighteen hospital trustees from across Minnesota were recognized for earning certification through the Minnesota Hospital Association's trustee certification program. The comprehensive certification process prepares hospital trustees to effectively meet the growing demands of serving on a hospital board and to be strong health care and community leaders.

By participating in MHA's voluntary certification program, hospital trustees receive training on current health care trends, governance best practices, ethics, government regulations, patient safety and quality. Participants undergo 35 hours of coursework, making Minnesota's initiative the most comprehensive in the nation.

"In Minnesota, more and more hospital trustees are formally preparing themselves to address the often complicated issues facing hospitals and health systems today," said Lawrence Massa, MHA president and CEO. "Our trustee certification program proactively ensures that hospital leaders are well-prepared to make good decisions."

"With so many changes in health care policy and practice — especially under federal and state health care reform — hospital trustees want this kind of support to be strong leaders in their organizations," Massa said. "Earning this certification demonstrates a trustee's commitment to the patients and communities the hospital serves."

Following are the newly certified trustees:

Bigfork Valley Hospital  
Linnette Davidson

Chippewa County-Montevideo Hospital  
Judi Bohm

Cook Hospital & Care Center  
Liz Dahl

District One Hospital, Faribault  
Beth Dienst  
Glenn Holman

Douglas County Hospital, Alexandria  
Owen Miller

Fairview Southdale Hospital, Edina  
Martin Kirsch

FirstLight Health System, Mora  
Kathi Ellis, DVM

Hendricks Community Hospital Association  
Mark Van Eck

Johnson Memorial Health Services, Dawson  
Tami Schuelke-Sampson

Lakewood Health System, Staples  
Frances Kokett  
Curt McIlravy

Ortonville Area Health Services  
Marilyn Lindahl  
Jayne Stecker

Rice Memorial Hospital, Willmar  
Andrea Carruthers

Ridgeview Sibley Medical Center, Arlington  
Dennis Schultz

Riverwood Healthcare Center, Aitkin  
Chad Gross

RiverView Health, Crookston  
Andy Oman

For more information about MHA's hospital trustee certification program, visit [www.mnhospitals.org/trustees](http://www.mnhospitals.org/trustees). For more information about Minnesota hospitals, visit [www.mnhospitals.org](http://www.mnhospitals.org).

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*The Minnesota Hospital Association represents hospitals and health systems, which provide quality care for their patients and meet the needs of their communities.*