



Despite a Volatile Health Care Climate, a Community Hospital in Chicago is Achieving Excellence

Community Care with a Focus on Best Practices and Patient Outcomes

CHICAGO, February 7, 2018 – In the midst of perpetual changes to health care, finding innovative ways to navigate a complicated system can be challenging, especially in one of Chicago’s most underserved communities. For Saint Anthony Hospital, closely monitoring its financial viability, implementing cost savings and focusing on providing the highest quality of care for its patients has been at the core of this 120-plus year health care institution.

The hospital was most recently recognized by the Illinois Health and Hospital Association for its innovative quality improvement project that had an estimated cost savings of almost half a million dollars and contributed to a 90-percent decrease in hospital-acquired infection rates. This is an area in which many hospitals struggle with, and Saint Anthony Hospital has been without an incident for two years.

Looking for continuous improvements is key in today’s ever-changing health care landscape. Saint Anthony was also just awarded its second consecutive Illinois Performance Excellence (ILPEX) Recognition Program Bronze Award for Commitment to Excellence, as well as being rated the city of Chicago’s Best Value hospital by Amino, a health care transparency company.

“We are continuously looking for quality improvement efforts, all the while building financial strength for our future,” said Guy A. Medaglia, President and Chief Executive Officer for Saint Anthony Hospital. “During fiscal year 2017, we were able to make a 10-percent revenue improvement during the most challenging reimbursement year-to-date. We instilled a necessary culture of change and looked for efficiencies across the entire organization.”

The hospital also earned its Perinatal Care Certification from The Joint Commission, making it the first in Illinois to be recognized for its commitment to achieving integrated, coordinated and patient-centered care for mothers and their newborns. It remains to have the lowest C-section rate in Chicago, as well.

Saint Anthony’s model for community care has been recognized well beyond its own zip code. The hospital has formed partnerships with three of the city’s top health care providers, including Northwestern Memorial Hospital, UI Health and the University of Chicago Medicine for service lines ranging from pediatric specialties to on-site neurology care. Globally, the Chinese medical community and government looked to Saint Anthony Hospital for its innovative models to expand and elevate the level of care offered in a community setting. It was the first Chicago hospital to join the ranks of other nationally recognized medical schools and hospitals, including John Hopkins Medicine and Harvard Medical School, to host physicians from prestigious universities and hospitals across China.

“Providing the highest quality of care is at the core of Saint Anthony Hospital’s mission, and the team’s dedication to ensuring accessibility for all patients who come through our doors is how this organization succeeds,” said Dr. Eden Takhsh, Vice President and Chief Quality Officer. “We constantly strive to innovate and implement new and efficient ways to uphold quality of care. With more financial challenges on the horizon for community hospitals like Saint Anthony, it is important to remain focused on high levels of care and successful patient outcomes.”

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