



CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITAL RECOGNITION: FY2016 INNOVATION IN CARE COORDINATION

Sakakawea Medical Center

Hazen, North Dakota

[Sakakawea Medical Center \(SMC\)](#), located in Hazen, North Dakota, was recognized for their innovative efforts connected to care coordination. In January 2015, SMC created a new position to facilitate care coordination efforts between the hospital and other care providers in the community.



Sakakawea Medical Center CEO accepts CAH Recognition Certificate from the North Dakota Flex Program.

Positive Outcomes

- Bridged the gap between hospital and clinic settings
- Improved discharge planning, referral tracking and medication reconciliation
- Increased coordination and service delivery in counseling, depression screening, drug and alcohol assessments, suicide prevention and other areas

Top Accomplishments

The hospital's Care Coordinator provided daily education to patients, reviewed medication lists, participated in daily discharge planning with care team and followed up with discharged patients via phone. Additionally, the Care Coordinator served as a liaison between patients and other service providers. Darrold Bertsch, Chief Executive Officer, credits the success of the initiative to the effort of staff:

"We appreciate this recognition and believe that it is a true reflection of what can be accomplished through the development of a patient-centered neighborhood of health care services."