



## CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITAL RECOGNITION: FY2017 INNOVATION IN BEHAVIORAL/MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVES

### Union General Hospital

Farmerville, Louisiana

Union General Hospital, located in Farmerville, Union Parish, Louisiana, is being recognized for the development of its innovative programs geared toward adolescent behaviors, *It's a Girl Thing: Making Proud Choices* and *Together We Can Be Bully Free*



Tim Tettleton, Board President, Evalyn Ormond, CEO, Claudia Wade, Community Development Manager/Grant Writer, Allyson Rogers Crow, Board Member, Union General Hospital

### Positive Outcomes

- Teen pregnancies in Union Parish decreased by 18% in the first three years of *It's a Girl Thing*
- The number of bullying related cases reported to the Union Parish Sheriff's office has decreased from 24 calls per week to 3 calls per week
- The two programs have served over 3,000 students in five years

### Top Accomplishments

*It's a Girl Thing* meetings are offered both at Union General Hospital and Union Parish School District. While the meetings are well-attended, they have an even bigger following on social media. The program has contributed to a decrease in suicide attempts and an increase in students choosing to attend college and to the number of girls seeking counseling. Because of the *Together We Can Be Bully Free* program, there has been a decrease in the number of adolescent suicide attempts reported through the Union Parish Sheriff's Office.

*"We have a goal in all our programs to teach our youth what is happening to their bodies and minds, recognizing the intimate relationship between development, health and behavior, encouraging self-responsibility and self-care, and providing a friendly environment and an innovative team approach in each of our sessions." – Evalyn Orman, CEO*