



CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITAL RECOGNITION: FY2016 INNOVATION IN CARE COORDINATION

Vidant Chowan Hospital

Edenton, North Carolina

With assistance from the North Carolina Office of Rural Health and Community Care, [Vidant Chowan Hospital \(VCH\)](#), located in Edenton, North Carolina, implemented a 'No Patient Left Behind' transitional health program, a free service through which patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), diabetes, post-acute myocardial infarction (AMI), congestive heart failure and pneumonia are helped to transition back to their home upon discharge.



The North Carolina Flex Program presents Vidant Chowan Hospital staff with the CAH Recognition Certificate.

Positive Outcomes

- 46% reduction in emergency department visits within first nine months
- 62% reduction in readmissions
- Vidant Health has expanded the program to cover all counties it serves in eastern North Carolina

Top Accomplishments

During the home visits, nursing staff educate patients about their medications, diet, exercise and healthy lifestyle options. Nursing staff work with physicians to obtain needed referrals or find a physician if needed. Assistance with other needs such as Meals on Wheels, transportation, diabetic supplies and new eyeglasses are facilitated by the visiting nurses. This project has been successful in large part due to the leadership and support provided by the dedicated staff of Vidant Chowan Hospital.