ABILITY HOMECARE ELITE

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Contact:
Julie Harper
Northwest Home Health
(256) 331-0006 or (256) 331-0046 (fax)
julie.harper@curaehealth.org



Northwest Home Health Named as a Top Agency of the 2017 ABILITY | HomeCare Elite

Russellville, AL, November 16, 2017 — Northwest Home Health today announced that it has been named a Top Agency of the 2017 HomeCare Elite[®], a recognition of the top-performing home health agencies in the United States. For 12 years, HomeCare Elite has annually identified the top 25 percent of Medicare-certified agencies and highlighted the top 100 and top 500 agencies overall.

The ranking is developed by ABILITY[®] Network, a leading information technology company helping providers and payers simplify the administrative and clinical complexities of healthcare; and sponsored by DecisionHealth, publisher of *Home Health Line* and the *Complete Home Health ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Coding Manual*.

"The team at Northwest Home Health has demonstrated an impressive ability to deliver great patient care," said Christine Lang, senior director for ABILITY Network. "This is due to the skill and dedication of their clinical professionals, as well as the proficiency and efforts of their quality team tracking, measuring and interpreting the data that supports the delivery of care. Together, they have earned this recognition as one of the top home care agencies in the country."

Julie Harper, Agency Director, Northwest Home Health, credits excellent patient satisfaction scores and a focus on preventing patient harms with the agency's ability to achieve recognition as one of the HomeCare Elite. "Russellville Hospital is proud of our home health department, Northwest Home Health, for being recognized as a HomeCare Elite agency. This exemplifies the agency's continued daily commitment to high quality, safe care," said Christine Stewart, Russellville Hospital CEO.

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"Congratulations to those leading agencies that earned a spot-on HomeCare Elite," said Marci Heydt, senior content manager for DecisionHealth. "Northwest Home Health and its peers have worked hard to improve quality outcomes while maintaining solid profit margins, which is increasingly difficult as home health agencies faced increased regulatory burdens each year."

HomeCare Elite agencies are determined by an analysis of performance measures in quality outcomes, best practices implementation, patient experience (HHCAHPS), quality improvement and consistency, and financial health. In order to be considered, an agency must be Medicare-certified and have data for at least three outcomes in Home Health Compare. Out of 9,064 agencies considered, 2,268 are recognized on the 2017 HomeCare Elite winners list overall.

The entire list of 2017 HomeCare Elite agencies can be downloaded by visiting the ABILITY Network website at abilitynetwork.com/homecare-elite.

About Northwest Home Health

Northwest Home Health is a Medicare certified and Joint Commission accredited facility offering skilled nursing care, home health aide services, and therapy services to residents in Winston, Marion, Franklin, Walker, and Lawrence counties. These services are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week and are covered by Medicare, Medicaid, and most major insurers. Our qualified staff work with patients to customize a therapeutic plan of care based on the patient's individual needs and the physician's direction.

For more information please visit the website at: http://www.russellvillehospital.com/services/northwest_home_health.aspx

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