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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

*Frederick Health Wins National Awards from American Heart Association*

**Frederick, MD – August 3, 2023**, Frederick Health has received five nationally-recognized awards from the American Heart Association for implementing specific quality care improvement measures. These awards are for excellent service in treating heart attacks, strokes, and diabetes. The awards are:

- **Mission: Lifeline® Receiving Center Gold STEMI Award**
- **Mission: Lifeline® Receiving Center Gold NSTEMI Award**
- **Get with the Guidelines® - Stroke Gold Plus Award**
- **Target: Stroke<sup>SM</sup> Honor Roll ELITE Award**
- **Target: Type 2 Diabetes<sup>SM</sup> Honor Roll Award**

The Mission: Lifeline program's goal is to reduce system barriers to prompt, quick, reliable treatment for heart attacks, categorized as STEMI or NSTEMI. Every year, hundreds of thousands of people experience heart attacks caused by a blockage of blood flow to the heart that requires timely treatment.

"We are dedicated to providing the best care for heart attack patients in Frederick County and the surrounding area," said Kristin Deely, Director of Cardiac & Vascular Services with Frederick Health. "It is an honor to be recognized for our dedication and excellence in treating cardiac patients."

Get With The Guidelines-Stroke was developed to assist healthcare professionals to provide the most up-to-date, research-based guidelines for treating stroke patients. Early stroke detection and treatment are key to improving survival, minimizing disability, and speeding recovery times. Frederick Health features a comprehensive system for rapid diagnosis and treatment of stroke patients.

"We are honored to be recognized by the American Heart Association for our dedication to helping patients have the best possible chance of survival after a stroke," said Savannah Rhoderick, Stroke Program Coordinator with Frederick Health. "These awards are a testament to the Frederick Health team putting proven knowledge, practices, and guidelines to work to improve outcomes for stroke patients in this community."

The impacts of these awards can be felt across the entire community.

"We are incredibly pleased to recognize Frederick Health for its commitment to caring for patients with stroke," said Steven Messe, MD, volunteer chairperson of the American Heart Association Stroke System of Care Advisory Group and professor of neurology and director of fellowships of neurology at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. "Participation in Get With The Guidelines is associated with improved patient outcomes, fewer readmissions and lower mortality rates – a win for healthcare systems, families and communities."

Diabetes affects millions of Americans. That is why this condition's detection and treatment are vitally important to the community. Frederick Health was recognized for developing quality measures with more than 90% compliance for 12 consecutive months for the "Overall Diabetes Cardiovascular Initiative Composite Score."

"By developing the tools, programs, and resources to help prevent and treat Type 2 Diabetes, we are making our community healthier," said Heather Kirby, Vice President of Integrated Care and Chief Population Health Officer with Frederick Health. "We greatly appreciate the American Heart Association's recognition of these efforts."

### **About Frederick Health**

Frederick Health provides comprehensive healthcare services to the residents of Frederick County. The system includes Frederick Health Hospital, Frederick Health Medical Group, Frederick Health Employer Solutions, Frederick Health Home Care, and Frederick Health Hospice. Frederick Health Medical Group is a multi-specialty practice with more than 100 providers, 22 specialties and multiple locations across the county. The system has several ambulatory care locations, the freestanding James M Stockman Cancer Institute, three urgent care locations, and the Frederick Health Village. With 4,000 team members, Frederick Health provides a full spectrum of healthcare and wellness services to support its mission to positively impact the well-being of every individual in our community.

For more information on Frederick Health, please visit [www.frederickhealth.org](http://www.frederickhealth.org).

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