

## **For Immediate Release**

**August 25, 2020**

**Contact:** Melanie Griffis, Public Relations Manager  
**Office:** (716) 828-3747 | **Cell:** (716) 289-6317 | **Email:** [MGriffis@CHSBuffalo.org](mailto:MGriffis@CHSBuffalo.org)

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### **Mercy Hospital Receives AHA Quality Awards for Heart Attack Care**

BUFFALO, NY—Mercy Hospital of Buffalo has received the *Mission: Lifeline*<sup>®</sup> *NSTEMI Gold Quality Achievement Award* and the *Silver Plus STEMI Receiving Center Quality Achievement Award* for achieving specific quality measures outlined by the American Heart Association (AHA) for the treatment of patients who suffer heart attacks. A ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI) is a more serious heart attack in which a coronary artery is completely blocked, while a non-ST segment elevation myocardial infarction (NSTEMI) is a less serious heart attack.

Every year, more than 800,000 Americans experience a heart attack—that means someone has a heart attack approximately every 40 seconds in the United States according to the AHA. The Mission: Lifeline program’s goal is to reduce system barriers to prompt treatment for heart attacks, beginning with the 9-1-1 call, to EMS transport and continuing through hospital treatment and discharge. The initiative provides tools, training and other resources to support heart attack care following the most recent evidence-based treatment guidelines.

Mercy Hospital earned the awards by meeting specific criteria and standards of performance for the quick and appropriate treatment of heart attack patients by providing emergency care to re-establish blood flow to blocked arteries when needed.

“Mercy Hospital is dedicated to providing optimal care for heart attack patients,” said Eddie Bratko, Mercy Hospital President. “We are pleased to be recognized for our dedication and achievements in cardiac care through Mission: Lifeline.”

“We applaud our Heart Center team for this award and demonstrating their commitment to quickly and appropriately treating heart attack patients,” said Dr. Mohan Madhusudanan, Medical Director of Cardiology. “This national quality recognition reflects the outstanding dedication and effort that each member of our team provides on a daily basis.”

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**About Mercy Hospital**

Mercy Hospital is home to the Catholic Health Heart Center, providing a full range of cardiac care services including heart surgery and the latest minimally invasive cardiac procedures, and serves as a Joint Commission-accredited Comprehensive Stroke Center with physician experts and capabilities to diagnose and treat the most complex stroke cases. Since 2017, Mercy Hospital has been recognized as a High Performing Hospital by U.S. News & World Report for heart bypass surgery. The hospital is also home to the Mercy Emergency Center featuring 32 private treatment rooms and a rooftop heliport, as well as the Family BirthPlace providing a full spectrum of maternity/child services and a Level II neonatal intensive care unit. Mercy also offers a wide array of outpatient, primary care and rehabilitation services at convenient locations throughout the area, including 24/7 emergency care available at the Mercy Ambulatory Care Center in Orchard Park. Founded over 100 years ago by the Sisters of Mercy, the hospital is committed to medical excellence with an ongoing mission to reveal the healing love of Jesus to those in need.

**About Mission: Lifeline**

The American Heart Association's Mission: Lifeline program helps hospitals and emergency medical services develop systems of care that follow proven standards and procedures for STEMI patients. The program works by mobilizing teams across the continuum of care to implement American Heart Association/American College of Cardiology Foundation clinical treatment guidelines. For more information, visit [heart.org](http://heart.org).

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