



Facebook: @CHSBuffalo

Twitter: @CHSBuffalo

Contact: Dawn M. Cwierley, Public Relations Manager

Office: (716) 447-6279 | **Cell:** (716) 225-9428 | **Email:** dcwierle@chsbuffalo.org

December 14, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Catholic Health Hospitals Receive Area's Highest Grades for Patient Safety Across the Board

Catholic Health's hospitals lead the region in The Leapfrog Group's fall 2020 Hospital Safety Grade Report, including the only two "A" Safety Grades in Western New York. Kenmore Mercy and Mount St. Mary's hospitals earned two of only fourteen "A" grades that were given in all of New York State. Sisters of Charity Hospital's Main St. and St. Joseph Campuses, as well as Mercy Hospital of Buffalo each received the region's only "B" Safety Grades.

This cycle marks Kenmore Mercy's fourteenth consecutive "A" Safety Grade, the only hospital in New York State to achieve an "A" grade for both the spring and fall cycles over the past seven years. Mount St. Mary's Hospital achieved its fifth consecutive "A" Safety Grade.

"During a time of much uncertainty and the need for additional safety precautions, this national recognition from The Leapfrog Group confirms Catholic Health's position as the quality and patient safety leader in Western New York," said Mark Sullivan, President & CEO of Catholic Health. "I thank each and every one of our caregivers for their unwavering commitment to superior patient care and for setting the highest standards of excellence in our community."

Based in Washington, DC, The Leapfrog Group is an independent industry watchdog founded more than a decade ago by the nation's largest employers and purchasers of healthcare to improve quality and safety for consumers. Using 27 measures of publicly available hospital safety data, the group strives to promote transparency in quality reporting by grading hospitals from "A" to "F" on how well they protect patients from medical errors, infections, and other preventable harm.

Catholic Health's Quality & Patient Safety Department continually reviews protocols, incorporates new best practices, and implements changes when needed to ensure the safest possible environment for patients and residents in the system's hospitals, nursing homes and home care agencies.

"For the past decade, Catholic Health has been the area leader in quality reporting transparency because it's the right thing to do and helps patients make more informed healthcare decisions," Sullivan added. "We challenge ourselves every day to improve the care we provide and welcome the opportunity to compare ourselves against the top performing hospitals in the country to raise the quality bar even further for the people of Western New York."

For more information on hospital safety, as well as individual hospital grades and rankings, please visit www.hospitalsafetygrade.org.

#

About Catholic Health

From delivering more than 6,000 babies each year; to offering the area's widest network of comprehensive cardiac, stroke, and orthopedic services; to providing a broad range of services for aging seniors; Catholic Health cares for hundreds of thousands of Western New Yorkers at dozens of locations throughout Erie and Niagara counties. Its healthcare network includes Kenmore Mercy Hospital, Mercy Hospital of Buffalo, Mount St. Mary's Hospital, and Sisters of Charity Hospital and its St. Joseph Campus; along with a complete continuum of Home & Community Based Care services, including skilled nursing and subacute rehab facilities, home care agencies, and diagnostic and treatment centers. For more information, visit www.chsbuffalo.org.

About The Leapfrog Group

Founded in 2000 by large employers and other purchasers, The Leapfrog Group is a national nonprofit organization driving a movement for giant leaps forward in the quality and safety of American health care. The flagship Leapfrog Hospital Survey and new Leapfrog Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC) Survey collect and transparently report hospital and ASC performance, empowering purchasers to find the highest-value care and giving consumers the lifesaving information, they need to make informed decisions. The Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade, Leapfrog's other main initiative, assigns letter grades to hospitals based on their record of patient safety, helping consumers protect themselves and their families from errors, injuries, accidents and infections.