



For Immediate Release

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**LEADVILLE, COLO. (September 15, 2018)**

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## **Hospital District Receives Top Award**

There are 1,800 governmental special districts that are members of the Special District Association of Colorado (SDACO). On September 14 Kimberli Kegou, board chair of St. Vincent General Hospital District (SVGHD), accepted SDACO's 2018 J. Evan Goulding District of the Year Award.

The J. Evan Goulding District of the Year Award was established by SDACO's Board of Directors to spotlight a district that demonstrates exceptional leadership and community spirit. This award recognizes a district's major accomplishments, series of outstanding efforts, and a steady determination to serve its constituency. The hospital district received the award in recognition of overcoming challenges in recent years and sustaining hospital care in Lake County.

The current hospital board and administration recognizes and appreciates the tireless work of previous board members and staff leading up to the acceptance of this award. Hospital CEO, Gary Campbell recently reflected on a quote from Saint Francis of Assisi: "Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible and suddenly you are doing the impossible."

Campbell stated, "When you consistently take steps toward the future, challenges are overcome. St. Vincent Hospital is proof. The team at St. Vincent Hospital is finding success every day by taking strategic and measurable steps toward living our mission and providing high-quality healthcare to our patients."

Some recent wins for SVGHD include:

- 2017 year-end financial position improved by roughly 1.4 million dollars, from negative \$596,877 in 2016 to positive \$775,925 in 2017.

- The district's total margin increased 14.7% in 2017. The district closed 2016 with a margin of negative 6.9% as contrasted to positive 7.8% in 2017.
- Days Cash on Hand, once averaging below 20 days in 2016 increased to 40 days in August, 2018
- Consistent satisfaction scores of 90% and above in the emergency room, inpatient unit and clinic.
- The hospital successfully completed and passed 2 rigorous regulatory surveys by Colorado State Fire Marshall and Centers for Medicaid and Medicare in 2018.
- 8 Inpatient rooms re-opened
- Swing Bed service reinstated
- Growth as high as 200% in ancillary services
- Dr. Lisa Zwerdinger became Chief of Medical Staff, E.R. provider and Hospitalist
- System-wide facility improvements which sustain hospital operations
- Business office and patient financial services return in house to the hospital. Billing handled in house and billing questions answered by staff at the hospital.
- New electronic medical record software with patient portal to better serve patients with more timely and understandable bills.
- Grant awards for new ambulance, clinic roof, boiler and domestic hot water repairs, radiology and lab equipment.

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