



## **Southern Prairie Community Cares' Integrated Health Project Reaps \$4 Million in Savings**

As an Integrated Health Partnerships (IHP) demonstration project for Minnesota's Medicaid reform initiative, Southern Prairie Community Care (SPCC) is pleased to report health care savings of more than \$4 million for 2014 within participating Southwest Minnesota counties. SPCC is one of only 16 provider groups across Minnesota working with the Department of Human Services on this accountable care initiative. Across the state, overall savings in 2014 totaled \$61.5 million, benefiting taxpayers while continuing to improve health care for low-income people.

"This initiative is improving our public health care programs while bringing costs down," said DHS Commissioner Lucinda Jesson. "We want to expand the Integrated Health Partnerships significantly so many more people in Medical Assistance and MinnesotaCare can benefit from the fresh new approaches this project is encouraging." In June, Commissioner Jesson announced plans to extend the IHP initiative and comparable value-based reforms to half of all Medical Assistance and MinnesotaCare enrollees – about 500,000 people – by the end of 2018.

During 2014, SPCC operations impacted just over 18,000 Medicaid enrollees. "Through innovative partnerships and activities, SPCC is a leader for our region and for Minnesota in changing the delivery, costs, and experience of health care," said Mary Fischer, SPCC Executive Director. "To date, our efforts have been focused on assuring a comprehensive approach to each member's care. The response has been very positive, and this enhanced collaboration has contributed to lower health care costs."

The \$4 million in cost savings will directly benefit the SPCC provider network because of Minnesota's IHP payment model, which prioritizes quality, preventative care and rewards providers for achieving mutually agreed upon health goals. SPCC's share of the savings will approximate \$1,547,000, which will be distributed to the provider member network. This partnership includes area hospitals, clinics, mental health providers, health and human service agencies, and various community-based providers throughout the 12-county area.

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In Southwest Minnesota, Southern Prairie Community Care (SPCC) is a 12-county, community-wide effort to integrate community services and support options to improve how local health care works, lower health care costs, and promote good health for everyone in our community. Counties in the collaboration are Chippewa, Cottonwood, Jackson, Kandiyohi, Lincoln, Lyon, Murray, Nobles, Redwood, Rock, Swift, and Yellow Medicine.

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