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UCare honors high-performing health care providers at Salute to Excellence! event

Event recognizes Minnesota clinics and care systems posting outstanding results in UCare's Pay for Performance Program

MINNEAPOLIS, July 13, 2011 — [UCare](#) held its second annual “Salute to Excellence!” event in May to recognize outstanding performances by Minnesota clinics and care systems that participated in [UCare's Pay for Performance Program](#) (P4P). At the gathering, UCare's management honored top-performing health care organizations providing health care to members of UCare's Medicare programs and Minnesota Health Care Programs (MCHP), such as MinnesotaCare and Prepaid Medical Assistance Program (PMAP).

The event was held at the University of Minnesota's McNamara Alumni Center. Guests included physicians and staff with [Children's Physician Network](#), [Crown Medical Center](#), [Lakewood Health System](#), [Multicare Associates](#), [Native American Community Clinic](#), [North Clinic](#), Park Avenue Family Practice, and [University of Minnesota Smiley's Family Medicine Clinic](#). Other honorees include the [Alexandria Clinic](#), [Lakeview Hospital](#), [Rainy Lake Medical Center](#), and [Sanford Westbrook Medical Center](#).



[UCare's](#) Pay for Performance (P4P) program paid **\$2,160,750** in late 2010 to clinics and care systems across Minnesota for their performance in key quality-of-health measurements achieved in 2009. The payments recognized and rewarded providers for superior or improved performance in measurable key areas for care delivered to members of UCare's Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP), including MinnesotaCare and Prepaid Medical Assistance Program (PMAP), UCare's Minnesota Senior Health Options (UCare's MSHO), and to members of UCare's [UCare for Seniors](#) Medicare Advantage plan.

“We truly value the health care professionals who provide our members with high-quality care determined by key quality-of-health measures,” said [Nancy Feldman](#), President and CEO, UCare. “We are proud to offer a true Pay for Performance Program that rewards clinics and care systems of all sizes. While this event honors excellent providers in our network, the real winners in this program are our members.”

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“We are very pleased to receive this recognition from UCare,” said Dr. John Halfen, Lakewood Health System Medical Director. “We strive to give our patients the best medical care and to advance that care in this era of reform. UCare has become a welcome partner in furthering our joint mission of providing value care.”

UCare’s P4P criteria are selected to improve preventive care, identify health issues through screenings for various health risks and conditions, and achieve improved outcomes for chronic conditions such as diabetes and cardiovascular disease. Measures are based on specifications from the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS), Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), the Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS), the Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement (ICSI), and MN Community Measurement (MNCM).

About UCare

UCare (www.ucare.org) is an independent, nonprofit health plan providing health care and administrative services to more than 225,000 members. UCare partners with health care providers, counties, community organizations, and other member-directed groups to create and deliver innovative health coverage products for:

- Medicare-eligible individuals throughout Minnesota and in western Wisconsin.
- Individuals and families enrolled in income-based Minnesota Health Care Programs, such as MinnesotaCare and Prepaid Medical Assistance Program.
- Adults with disabilities and Medicare beneficiaries with chronic health conditions
- Minnesotans dually eligible for Medical Assistance and Medicare.

UCare addresses health care disparities and care access issues through its UCare Fund grants and a broad array of community initiatives. The health plan received Top Workplaces honors from the *Star Tribune* in 2010 and 2011.

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