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Bellin and Gundersen Health System Receives 2024 Advocacy All-Star Award from WHA

Achievement recognizes the commitment of Bellin and Gundersen Health Systems 's team to advocating for Wisconsin hospitals

MADISON, Wis. — Bellin and Gundersen Health System received the 2024 Advocacy All-Star Award at Wisconsin Hospital Association's (WHA) annual Advocacy Day event on March 20 attended by more than 700 hospital advocates. Presented by Kari Hofer, WHA Vice President of External Affairs, the award recognizes one hospital or health care system that exemplifies a dedication to grassroots advocacy.



“Bellin and Gundersen Health System has a strong commitment to the grassroots process, all year long, making sure their advocates contact their lawmakers on both state and federal issues,” **said Hofer**. “Bellin and Gundersen Health System always has a strong showing at WHA's Advocacy Day, making participating in this event an annual priority.”

Dr. Scott Rathgaber, CEO of Bellin and Gundersen Health System, accepted the award on behalf of the organization. “Bellin and Gundersen Health System helps our patients and communities amplify their voices to improve health and wellbeing, minimize the cost of care, and help everyone thrive,” **said Rathgaber**. “Advocacy isn't about titles; it's about commitment and passion.”

Bellin and Gundersen Health System is a strong partner of WHA, dedicated to advocating for Wisconsin hospitals. Their commitment includes serving on the WHA Board, speaking on behalf of Wisconsin hospitals through testimony to the legislature, and serving as spokespeople for WHA's issue advocacy campaigns, "Stronger Hospitals, Stronger Communities" and "The Truth on Transparency." Bellin and Gundersen Health System also represents Wisconsin hospitals in Washington, D.C. ensuring Wisconsin's voice is heard on federal issues impacting health care.

WHA's Advocacy Day is the premier health care advocacy event in Wisconsin with more than 700 attendees representing nearly every hospital and health system in Wisconsin.

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ABOUT THE WISCONSIN HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION

WHA advocates on behalf of its 140-plus member hospitals and health systems to enable the delivery of high-quality, high-value care to the citizens of Wisconsin. Learn more at wha.org.

ABOUT BELLIN AND GUNDERSEN HEALTH SYSTEM

Formed in December 2022, Bellin and Gundersen Health System is a not-for-profit, patient-centered, community-focused healthcare network with headquarters in Green Bay and La Crosse, Wisconsin. Bellin and Gundersen Health System has nearly 15,000 employees, including more than 1,400 clinicians, in 11 hospitals and more than 100 clinic locations in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Upper Michigan, and Iowa. With community partners, Bellin and Gundersen Health System strives to lead (with love) local, regional and national healthcare transformation to inspire people's best lives at every stage. Learn more at bellin.org and gundersenhealth.org.