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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**National Committee for Quality Assurance  
Recognizes Ammonoosuc Community Health Services**

LITTLETON – Ammonoosuc Community Health Services, Inc. along with two other New Hampshire Health Care Centers were recently awarded the highest level of recognition for Physician Practice Connections<sup>®</sup> – Patient Centered Medical Home<sup>™</sup> from the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). The recognition reflects the input of the American College of Physicians, the American Academy of Family Physicians, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the American Osteopathic Association.

Ammonoosuc Community Health Services, Inc., Lamprey Health Care, and Mid-State Health Center received Level 3 distinction from the NCQA. “The Community Health Centers received the highest quality rating for creating practices designed to achieve healthy outcomes for their patients, far beyond the treatment of isolated symptoms that is so common in approaches to health care. The three health centers have successfully integrated primary and specialty medical care, oral health, and behavioral health to provide a comprehensive approach to patient care. They are on the cutting edge, creating a model of best practices in clinical health care. We are very proud of our NH Community Health Center members; they are tremendous assets to their communities,” remarked Tess Stack Kuenning, executive director of Bi-State Primary Care Association.

In response to this recognition, ACHS CEO Edward D Shanshala II stated, “I am delighted that the efforts of everyone involved; our Board of Directors, Senior Leadership, Providers, Staff, and Patients has resulted in National Recognition demonstrating that ACHS provides the highest level of patient-centered primary preventive healthcare.

The “Patient Centered Medical Home” is a model for care provided by physician practices that seeks to strengthen the physician-patient relationship by replacing episodic care based on illnesses and patient complaints with coordinated care. The Physician Recognition Programs identify physicians who deliver superior care using standards firmly rooted in medical evidence. Over time, this model holds significant promise for reduced costs and better health care quality.

Founded in 1975, Ammonoosuc Community Health Services is a nonprofit community health center offering a network of affordable primary health services. Their programs promote and support the well-being of individuals and families by emphasizing preventive care and encouraging active participation in one’s own health.

ACHS serves 26 New Hampshire towns in northern Grafton and southern Coös counties and has sites located in Littleton, Franconia, Whitefield, Warren and Woodsville. Clinical teams, made up of doctors, nurse practitioners or physician assistants supported by nurses and medical assistants, provide comprehensive services on a sliding-fee-scale and is the patient-centered medical home of choice to over 10,000 patients.

If you would like affordable quality health care, please visit [www.ammonoosuc.org](http://www.ammonoosuc.org) or call our New Patient hotline at 1-866-201-5076.

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