

TO MEDIA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

INDEPENDENCE HEALTH SYSTEM REMAINS TOPS IN WELLNESS

GREENSBURG, PA, June 6, 2024 ...Independence Health System continues to be recognized as a leader in employee wellness, with the human resources programs offered by the health system once again honored by the Best and Brightest Program®. This is the eighth consecutive year the organization is ranked among the **Nation's Best and Brightest in Wellness** winning companies in a program sponsored by the National Association for Business Resources. The most recent honor reflects the expansion of the health system's wellness program to encompass all of the employees of Excela Health and Butler Health System, which merged to become Independence Health System in 2023.

Independence Health System is one of 29 businesses in various employment sectors to be lauded in this latest round of recognition. Companies making the list distinguished themselves as having the most innovative wellness, well-being and human resource practices.

The winning companies were evaluated by an assessment created and administered by a leading wellness research firm. Each entry was examined statistically for quantitative and qualitative data. Each survey was scored on a point system based upon criteria to benchmark and improve wellness program effectiveness. They include outcomes, analysis, tracking, participation & incentives, benefits and programs, leadership, employee input, culture, and environment.

Jennifer Kluge, President and CEO of NABR and the Best & Brightest Programs, noted that these companies have prioritized making a significant impact on their culture. "With

a focus on their employees' well-being as the top priority, this powerful community of the nation's elite leaders have gained a competitive edge."

These Best and Brightest winning organizations will be celebrated during a digital awards show in December 2024 and also at the National Executive Leadership Summit in March 2025.

Independence Health System is also recognized among the Healthiest Employers in Western Pennsylvania, and as a Healthiest 100 Workplace in America, in an awards program presented by Healthiest Employer®.

"Having a robust health and wellness program is a differentiator to prospective new hires and an important component of our retention efforts," noted Laurie English, Senior Vice President of Human Resources at Independence Health System. "As we work to distinguish our job opportunities from the myriad employment choices available in our region, we are able to demonstrate that we prioritize a person's physical, mental, emotional and financial well-being. Being recognized for what we do day in and day out validates that our efforts are noteworthy and outside the norm and another reason to consider Independence Health System as a place to make a career."

Nationally recognized for quality care, Independence Health System comprises Butler Memorial, Clarion, Frick, Latrobe and Westmoreland Hospitals with a combined bed count of 925. With more than 1,000 physicians and advanced practice providers and 7,300 employees, the System is the third largest in western Pennsylvania serving a population base of 750,000 in a footprint spanning more than 10 counties.

The System includes tertiary programs rated among America's best for cardiac care and surgery, earning [accolades from a number of prestigious outlets and organizations](#). Locally owned and locally controlled, Independence Health System offers its patients low-cost, high-quality care across the care spectrum in such specialties as cardiology, cardiovascular and thoracic surgery, orthopedics and sports medicine, minimally invasive and robotic surgery, women's health and obstetrics, emergency medicine, behavioral health and primary care. Its network of outpatient centers sees more than 1.2 million visits annually. The homecare division further supports patients at all stages of life with home health and hospice services. Learn more at www.independence.health

About the Best and Brightest Programs The Best and Brightest in Wellness, Best and Brightest Companies to Work For, Best and Brightest CEOs and Leadership Teams in the Nation are programs of the National Association for Business Resources, and are presented in several markets: Atlanta, Charlotte, Chicago, Dallas/Fort Worth, Denver, Detroit, Houston, Miami, Milwaukee, Nashville, New England, New York, Northern California, Pacific Northwest, Southern California, West Michigan and Nationally. Nominations are now being accepted for all programs. Visit <https://nationalbiz.org/best-and-brightest/nominations/> to obtain an application.