



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Lewis County Health System Awarded Critical Access Hospital
Accreditation from The Joint Commission**

LOWVILLE, NY— Lewis County Health System has earned The Joint Commission’s Gold Seal of Approval® for Critical Access Hospital Accreditation by demonstrating continuous compliance with its performance standards. The Gold Seal is a symbol of quality that reflects a healthcare organization’s commitment to providing safe and quality patient care.

Lewis County Health System underwent a rigorous, unannounced onsite review in June. During the visit, a team of Joint Commission reviewers evaluated compliance with critical access hospital standards spanning several areas, including emergency management, the environment of care, infection prevention and control, leadership, medication management, and the rights and responsibilities of the individual.

“We are pleased to achieve re-accreditation from The Gold Seal of Approval from the Joint Commission,” stated Gerald R. Cayer, Chief Executive Officer at Lewis County Health System. “Our entire team works together to improve the quality of care for our patients and live by our mission of helping the residents of Lewis County and surrounding communities achieve their highest level of health and wellness.”

The Joint Commission’s standards are developed in consultation with healthcare experts and providers, measurement experts, and patients. They are informed by scientific literature and expert consensus to help healthcare organizations measure, assess, and improve performance. The surveyors also conducted onsite observations and interviews.

“As a healthcare accreditor, The Joint Commission works with healthcare organizations across care settings to inspire a safer and higher quality of care that is more equitable and compassionate,” says Ken Grubbs, DNP, MBA, RN, executive vice president of Accreditation and Certification Operations and chief nursing officer, The Joint Commission. “Through collaborating on innovative solutions and evidence-based resources and tools, The Joint Commission helps drive improvement while maintaining accountability through our leading survey methods and standards. We commend Lewis County Health System for its commitment to advance safety, quality, equity, and compassion for all patients.”

“The Joint Commission is the premier healthcare quality improvement process and accrediting body,” stated Chief Operating Officer Kerry Herbine. “Our medical and hospital staff focus on excellence and quality. The renewed accreditation by The Joint Commission recognizes their exceptional dedication and work to enhance the health of our communities and deliver the highest level of care for our patients at Lewis County Health System.”

For more information, please visit [The Joint Commission website](#).