



— State of —  
**North Dakota**  
*Office of the Governor*  
**Jack Dalrymple**  
*Governor*

## NEWS

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### **DALRYMPLE CONGRATULATES STATE HOSPITAL ON NATIONAL AWARD**

BISMARCK, N.D. – Gov. Jack Dalrymple today congratulated the North Dakota State Hospital, which is part of the N.D. Department of Human Services, on being nationally recognized as a *Top Performer on Key Quality Measures*. The award was given by The Joint Commission, the leading accreditor of health organizations in America, for exemplary performance in providing evidence-based clinical measures that are shown to improve patient care for hospital-based inpatient psychiatric services.

“Congratulations to the entire staff at the North Dakota State Hospital for being named a national Top Performer,” Dalrymple said. “The services provided here help individuals with mental health needs that require a tremendous amount of knowledge and expertise. We are proud of the work done by the State Hospital and proud these mental health services are readily available for North Dakotans who need them.”

As a *Top Performer*, the State Hospital achieved a performance rating of 95 percent or more for each accountability measure including appropriate admission screenings, patient safety practices, creating and implementing patient care plans, and appropriate usage of multiple anti-psychotic medications. Each accountability measure represents an evidence-based practice and is reported annually to The Joint Commission.

The State Hospital is the primary provider of inpatient mental health and addiction treatment services for a 26-county area in the state.

“This national recognition validates the quality services and care provided at the North Dakota State Hospital in coordination with the regional human service centers and other behavioral health service providers,” said Maggie Anderson, executive director of the N.D. Department of Human Services.

For the current biennium, the state invested more resources through the Department of Human Services to enhance behavioral health services across North Dakota. This includes additional funding for acute care and rehabilitation needs due to traumatic brain

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injuries, residential treatment services at the Robinson Recovery Center, transitional living programs and long-term residential programs for individuals with mental illness and/or substance addiction issues, mental health case management services, medical detox services, and community-based high-risk sex offender treatment in coordination with the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

“We understand that what matters most to State Hospital patients and their families is safe, effective care, which contributes to better outcomes and supports recovery,” said Alex Schweitzer, superintendent of the hospital. “The credit goes to our staff who work hard to provide positive patient outcomes every day, and that is why this recognition means a tremendous amount to staff and the entire organization.”

As part of its award, the State Hospital was recognized in The Joint Commission’s *Improving America’s Hospital’s* annual report, and on The Joint Commission’s Quality Check website at [www.qualitycheck.org](http://www.qualitycheck.org).

The Joint Commission is the nation’s oldest and largest standards-setting and accrediting body in health care. They evaluate and accredit more than 19,000 health care organizations and programs in the United States.

For information about the North Dakota State Hospital call 701-253-3964, ND Relay TTY 800-366-6888, or visit [www.nd.gov/dhs/locations/statehospital/index.html](http://www.nd.gov/dhs/locations/statehospital/index.html).

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