



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Fiona Phelan
Media Relations Manager
860-714-1076/ 860-712-8517
fphelan@Saintfranciscare.org

**Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center honored with Mission:
Lifeline Achievement Award**

(HARTFORD, Conn. – July 11, 2017) — *Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center has received the Mission: Lifeline® Bronze*

Receiving Quality Achievement Award for implementing specific quality improvement measures outlined by the American Heart Association for the treatment of patients who suffer severe heart attacks.

Every year, more than 250,000 people experience an ST elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI), the deadliest type of heart attack, caused by a blockage of blood flow to the heart that requires timely treatment. To prevent death, it's critical to restore blood flow as quickly as possible, either by mechanically opening the blocked vessel or by providing clot-busting medication.

The American Heart Association's Mission: Lifeline program's goal is to reduce system barriers to prompt treatment for heart

attacks, beginning with the 9-1-1 call and continuing through hospital treatment.

“Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center is dedicated to improving the quality of care for our patients who suffer a heart attack, and the American Heart Association’s Mission: Lifeline program is helping us accomplish that goal through nationally respected clinical guidelines,” said Daniel J. Diver, M.D., chief of cardiology and physician executive of the cardiovascular service line. “We are pleased to be recognized for our dedication and achievements in cardiac care, and I am very proud of our team.”

In addition to receiving the Mission: Lifeline Bronze Receiving award, *Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center* has also been recognized as a recipient of Mission: Lifeline’s Bronze-Plus award, which recognizes the hospital has reached an achievement score of 75 percent or greater for treating STEMI transfer patients within 120 minutes for at least one quarter.

“We commend *Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center* for this achievement award, which reflects a significant institutional commitment to the highest quality of care for their heart attack patients,” said James G. Jollis, M.D., chair of the Mission: Lifeline Advisory Working Group.

“Achieving this award means the hospital has met specific reporting and achievement measures for the treatment of their patients who suffer heart attacks and we applaud them for their commitment to quality and timely care.”

Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center earned the award by meeting specific criteria and standards of performance for the quick and appropriate treatment of STEMI patients by providing emergency procedures to re-establish blood flow to blocked

arteries when needed. Eligible hospitals must adhere to these measures at a set level for at least one consecutive 90 day interval.

###

About Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center

Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center has been an anchor institution in north central Connecticut since 1897. In 2015, Saint Francis became part of Trinity Health - New England, an integrated health care delivery system that is a member of Trinity Health, Livonia, MI, one of the largest multi-institutional Catholic health care delivery systems in the nation. Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center is licensed for 617 beds, is a major teaching hospital and the largest Catholic hospital in New England. Other Saint Francis entities include the Comprehensive Women's Health Center, the Connecticut Joint Replacement Institute, the Curtis D. Robinson Center for Health Equity, the Hoffman Heart and Vascular Institute of Connecticut, the Smilow Cancer Hospital Yale-New Haven at Saint Francis, and Saint Francis Medical Group. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter @SaintFrancisCT

About Mission: Lifeline

The American Heart Association's Mission: Lifeline program helps hospitals and emergency medical services develop systems of care that follow proven standards and procedures for STEMI patients. The program works by mobilizing teams across the continuum of care to implement American Heart Association/American College of Cardiology Foundation clinical treatment guidelines. For more information, visit heart.org.