



## SUPPLY CHAIN EXCELLENCE AWARD



### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### ***SAINT FRANCIS RECOGNIZED FOR PROMOTING DIVERSITY IN PURCHASING PRACTICES***

*(Hartford, Conn. June 25, 2015)* –Premier, Inc. presented an honorable mention to Saint Francis Care for the *Diversity Award* during an awards ceremony that took place during Premier’s annual Breakthroughs Conference and Exhibition on June 24, 2015.

The *Diversity Award* honors health systems that have established active programs to evaluate and support minority-, women- and veteran-owned enterprises, as well as small businesses, available through the Premier contract portfolio.

“Creating opportunities for companies owned by diverse people is a priority at Saint Francis,” said Christopher M. Dadlez, President and Chief Executive Officer, Saint Francis Care. “In fact, it’s part of our mission.”

“We are proud of the diversity of our vendors and are always reaching out through our Diversity Vendor Fair and looking for new ways to include the growing numbers of businesses owned by minorities, women and veterans,” said David Walsh, Administrative Director of Supply Chain, who accepted the award at Premier’s 2015 Breakthroughs Conference and Exhibition in National Harbor, Maryland, on June 24, 2015. “Saint Francis received the Diversity Award for important contributions in developing and nurturing diversity programs in their organizations and communities.”

Premier members apply for the *Diversity Award* and are measured on engagement in diversity initiatives through community involvement, diversity business outreach initiatives, benchmarking and best practices sharing.

“Saint Francis Care is at the forefront of innovative diversity programs that benefit the communities, businesses and a people they serve,” said Durrall R. Gilbert, Premier president of supply chain services. “We welcome collaboration with diverse suppliers and encourage health systems to use their highly-valued products and services.”

### **About Premier, Inc.**

Premier, Inc. is a leading healthcare improvement company, uniting an alliance of approximately 3,400 U.S. hospitals and 110,000 other providers to transform healthcare. With integrated data and analytics, collaboratives, supply chain solutions, and advisory and other services, Premier enables better care and outcomes at a lower cost. Premier, a Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award recipient, plays a critical role in the rapidly evolving healthcare industry, collaborating with members to co-develop long-term innovations that reinvent and improve the way care is delivered to patients nationwide. Headquartered in Charlotte, N.C., Premier is passionate about transforming American healthcare. Please visit Premier's news and investor sites on [www.premierinc.com](http://www.premierinc.com).

### **About Saint Francis Care**

Saint Francis *Care* is an integrated healthcare delivery system established by Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, an anchor institution in north central Connecticut since 1897. Licensed for 617 beds and 65 bassinets, it is a major teaching hospital and the largest Catholic hospital in New England. Other major entities of Saint Francis *Care* include The Mount Sinai Rehabilitation Hospital, the Connecticut Joint Replacement Institute, the Hoffman Heart and Vascular Institute of Connecticut, the Saint Francis/Mount Sinai Regional Cancer Center, the Joyce D. and Andrew J. Mandell Center for Comprehensive Multiple Sclerosis Care and Neuroscience Research, and Saint Francis Health*Care* Partners. Johnson Memorial Medical Center, parent organization of Johnson Memorial Hospital, Evergreen Health Care Center, and Home and Community Health Services is also a Saint Francis *Care* Partner. Saint Francis *Care*'s services are supported by a network of five major Access Centers and eight additional medical office centers sited throughout the region. For more information, visit [www.stfranciscare.com](http://www.stfranciscare.com).