**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT: {Name}
 {email/phone}**

**{Facility Name} 2024 Governor’s Award of Excellence Recipient**

**{Date, City} MI – {Organization}** is a proud recipient of the 2024 Governor’s Award of Excellence. {Organization} earned prestigious recognition for: **{award area/areas}**. This distinguished award was offered through a collaboration of Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, iMPROve Health and the Michigan Health & Hospital Association (MHA) Keystone Center.

“I am very proud of the work we’ve done to achieve this award — it was a two-year endeavor,” said **{spokesperson name and title}**. “This is our **{# of awards}** time receiving the Governor’s Award of Excellence. Our efforts to earn this award will result in better outcomes for our patients; this is work we do continuously behind the scenes every day. Today, we were recognized for it.”

The award criteria were aligned with the healthcare objectives of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Enrolled organizations could win the Governor’s Award in up to three different categories and could receive Medals of Achievement by demonstrating the incorporation of Person and Family and/or Health Equity strategies to drive improvement.

These healthcare organizations were invited to participate:

* Community Coalitions
* Critical Access Hospitals
* Home Health Agencies
* Hospitals
* Nursing Homes
* Physician Offices

The Governor’s Award of Excellence started in 2003 in partnership with iMPROve Health and Gov. Engler. The award recognizes providers that focus on improving some of Michigan’s most pressing health issues. The Medals of Achievement are additional recognition for providers that incorporate an inclusive approach to care and strategies that are aimed at decreasing disparities in care.

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**About iMPROve Health**

[iMPROve Health](https://www.improve.health/) is Michigan’s designated Quality Improvement Organization. As a nonprofit organization, we have 40 years of experience improving healthcare across the continuum of care using evidence-based and data-driven logic. We also have extensive experience completing thoughtful and impartial utilization review, dispute resolution and peer reviews.

Our multidisciplinary staff is composed of physicians, registered nurses, data analysts, quality consultants and health information technology experts. Our reach extends throughout the country.

Since 2002, iMPROve Health has maintained URAC accreditation as an Independent Review Organization: Comprehensive Review.

**About MHA Keystone Center**

All Michigan hospitals and thousands of their team members are voluntarily participating in MHA programs to improve the safety and quality of healthcare. A growing number of hospitals in other states are now part of the MHA-lead patient safety and quality initiatives.

As a result of these initiatives, which are driven by evidence-based, best practices, and strongly supported by data, engaged hospitals are seeing great improvements in safety and quality outcomes. The [MHA Keystone Center’s](https://www.mha.org/MHA-Keystone-Center-Patient-Safety-Organization/About-the-MHA-Keystone-Center/) mission, vision, and values are an essential part of the work being done, and demonstrate their engagement to improving Michigan hospitals.