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Joint Township District  
 Memorial Hospital

Grand Lake  
 Family Practice & Pediatrics  
 at the Celina Medical Center

Wapakoneta Primary Care  
 at the Wapakoneta Medical Center

Grand Lake Home Health

Grand Lake Hospice

Grand Lake OB/GYN

Grand Lake Occupational Medicine

Grand Lake Primary Care  
 at St. Marys

Grand Lake Sleep Center

Miami & Erie  
 Family Practice & Pediatrics

Urgent Care at JTD MH

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# PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Regional Health Care Leader Named Platinum Partner in Hospital Champions for Organ Donation Program

*Donate Life Ohio, Ohio Hospital Association and the Ohio Department of Health's Second Chance Trust Fund honor Grand Lake Health System for organ donation advocacy*

ST. MARYS, Ohio (June 13, 2013) – Grand Lake Health System, a nonprofit health care provider serving residents of the Grand Lake region, has been named a Platinum Partner in the Small Hospital category of the 2012-2013 Hospital Champions Program sponsored by Donate Life Ohio, the Ohio Hospital Association and the Ohio Department of Health Second Trust Fund. Grand Lake Health System is one of only four hospitals in Ohio to be recognized as a Platinum Partner. The other three hospitals include Genesis HealthCare System-Bethesda, MetroHealth System and The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center. All hospitals were recognized at the 2013 OHA Annual Meeting held June 11, 2013.

The Hospital Champions for Organ Donation Program worked to increase awareness of the need for organ, eye and tissue donor registration. All hospitals participating in the program were able to earn points for their participation. The number of points earned designates which level of recognition the hospitals received. Platinum recognition is the highest level of recognition. Points were earned based on the number of community outreach programs facilitated and people reached by the participating hospital. Through its community outreach efforts including talks and presentations at various organizations, civic groups and local companies, Grand Lake Health System was able to reach more than 1,000 members of the Grand Lake region. GLHS also appeared on local media generating an additional 6,000 media impressions.

"We are so pleased to be named with this honor," says Sonnie Bernardi, Performance Improvement Manager for Grand Lake Health System and Committee Chair for the Program. "For months, we consistently facilitated quality community outreach programs that not only educated our community but provided an opportunity for open dialogue around this important topic affecting thousands of Ohioans."

According to the Ohio Department of Health, more than 114,000 people nationwide and more than 3,400 people in Ohio await a lifesaving organ transplant. In addition, more than 170 Ohioans died in 2012 when a lifesaving organ could not be found in time for transplant. However, by participating in this important program, Grand Lake Health System took the necessary steps to reduce this number.

For more information on the Hospital Champions for Organ Donation Program, visit <http://ohadonatelife.org/>.

### About Grand Lake Health System

Grand Lake Health System is a mission-driven, nonprofit healthcare provider serving the Grand Lake Region of West Central Ohio since 1953. Grand Lake Health System includes over 150 physicians and 800 health care professionals who deliver comprehensive, high-quality care to patients from 10 centers of excellence and 13 affiliated practices throughout the region. Grand Lake's largest facility is Joint Township District Memorial Hospital, located in St. Marys, Ohio. Grand Lake Physician Practices includes Grand Lake Family Practice and Pediatrics, Wapakoneta Primary Care, Grand Lake Primary Care at St. Marys, Grand Lake OB/GYN and Miami & Erie Family Practice & Pediatrics. For more information about Grand Lake Health System, visit [www.GrandLakeHealth.org](http://www.GrandLakeHealth.org) and [Facebook.com/GrandLakeHealth..](https://www.facebook.com/GrandLakeHealth..) ■