



Media Release

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WHAT: Maternity Practices in Infant Nutrition and Care at South County Hospital Receive National Recognition

DETAILS: The Department of Health & Human Services has recently notified South County Hospital that the national assessment of “Maternity Practices in Infant Nutrition and Care” conducted by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), has ranked the Hospital’s performance in this area among the highest in the nation.

The survey, known as “mPINC,” examined infant feeding practices in 82-percent of the facilities nationwide that provide maternity care. The components assessed were: Labor & Delivery Care; Postpartum Care; Facility Discharge Care; Staff Training; and Structural and Organizational Aspects of Care Delivery. Participation in the survey was voluntary.

South County Hospital, one of the 2,690 facilities that participated in the assessment, scored in the 97th percentile nationally, 95th percentile in the state, and 99th when compared with hospitals of similar size.

“We know now that breastfeeding affects the health of both moms and babies,” noted Denise McCooey, IBCLC (International Board Certified Lactation Consultant) and Team Leader of the lactation services programs at the Hospital. “Here at South County Hospital, that’s our job—to support moms and babies and help them be successful at breastfeeding. We have three International Board Certified Lactation Consultants here and we are proud of the work we do.

“We have inpatient and outpatient programs, and we see moms from all over Rhode Island and from Connecticut and Massachusetts too. Our ‘Warm Line’ gets five to ten calls a day, every day, from women who delivered here *and* from women who delivered elsewhere, including every other hospital in the state. That’s our reputation here, and that’s way we even have women from Connecticut and Massachusetts coming here for our services.

“For a community hospital to meet these goals is commendable.”

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