

Clarity Group, Inc. Announces Partnership with National Rural Health Association

Bringing tools for risk management, quality and patient safety to the rural healthcare market.

Chicago, IL (<u>PRWEB</u>) April 15, 2012 -- Clarity Group Inc., has partnered with the National Rural Health Association (NRHA) to bring its risk, quality and safety management tools to the small and rural healthcare market. The partnership will facilitate the growth and increased impact of Clarity's Benchmark for Excellence in Patient Safety[™] (BFEPS), a national safety and quality benchmarking program designed specifically for hospitals and other healthcare organizations that have fewer than 100 beds. The National Rural Health Association Partnership Program aims to connect its membership with products and services relevant to the rural market.

Clarity Group recognized that its rural clients, particularly critical access hospitals, had a need to create relevant benchmarks and compare themselves against like organizations. "We understand the importance of small and rural healthcare to our communities and to the national healthcare system," says Anna Hajek, President and CEO of Clarity Group, Inc. "They are working hard to become more efficient and improve patient safety and quality of care and, by partnering with NRHA, Clarity can help ensure they have access to the tools to help them do that."

The BFEPS program aims to create a national database of patient safety data from small and rural healthcare providers. The data is collected through Clarity Group's Healthcare SafetyZone® Portal, a web-based tool for collection and analysis of safety and quality events. Program participants receive Quarterly Comparative Reports that offer institution, state and national-level comparisons that allow them to identify trends and implement measures that reduce risk. Quarterly educational webinars facilitate learning and sharing of best practices among participants.

The program has experienced tremendous growth since its inception and now has statewide programs in North Dakota, Michigan and Wisconsin in addition to independent participants from many other states. Clarity Group expects to launch at least three additional statewide programs and significantly grow the database and impact by the end of 2012.

ABOUT CLARITY

Clarity Group, Inc. helps healthcare organizations understand and manage their risk and related costs through innovative and practical tools and services that focus on quality and safety outcomes. Core Clarity products include captive insurance company development and operations; risk-quality-safety consulting and educational services; and software that facilitates the reporting, tracking and management of safety and quality events. Clarity PSO, a Division of Clarity Group, Inc., is a federally listed Patient Safety Organization with the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. For more information on Clarity Group Inc., visit <u>www.claritygrp.com</u>.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

The National Rural Health Association (NRHA) is a national nonprofit membership organization with more than 20,000 members. The association's mission is to provide leadership on rural health issues. NRHA membership consists of a diverse collection of individuals and organizations, all of whom share the common bond of an interest in rural health. For more information on NRHA visit <u>www.ruralhealthweb.org</u>



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