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Firelands Regional Medical Center Named **HEALTHSTRONG** Hospital

(March 4, 2015 – Sandusky, Ohio) Firelands Regional Medical Center has been named a HEALTHSTRONG Hospital based on results of the 2015 Hospital Strength INDEX by iVantage Health Analytics.

HEALTHSTRONG status is awarded to hospitals with the highest performance in leadership. The INDEX compared more than 4,300 hospitals on financial performance and delivery of care, identifying only 572 hospitals as HEALTHSTRONG Hospitals.

The nine pillars of performance measured included: outpatient market share, inpatient market share, population risk, cost, charge, quality, outcomes, patient perspective and financial stability. Based on the performance measures, Firelands Regional Medical Center's INDEX Rank is 97.6%, a percentile score compared against all U.S. hospitals in the study database.

"Firelands Regional Medical Center is proud to be recognized as a 2015 HEALTHSTRONG Hospital," said Martin Tursky, president and CEO of Firelands Regional Medical Center. "It supports our goal of providing patients with the highest level of care while upholding financial responsibility and I am pleased to share this award with our Board of Directors, physicians, staff and community."

"iVantage seeks to help hospitals meet the demands of the changing healthcare environment by providing a new level of transparency into the internal and external metrics which drive more informed decision making," said Araby Thornewill, president of iVantage Health Analytics. "As the industry continues to evolve toward value-based delivery models, the Hospital Strength INDEX provides a unique perspective into how hospitals are responding to unprecedented change as well as advancing toward the ultimate goal of higher quality care at lower cost."

To learn more about the quality rankings Firelands Regional Medical Center has received, visit firelands.com/quality.

About Firelands Regional Medical Center

Firelands Regional Medical Center is nationally recognized for its award-winning care. Firelands is the only hospital in Ohio to be rated a 100 Best Hospital in the nation for Spine Surgery, 3 years in a row. Firelands is also rated a 50 Best Hospital in the nation for Vascular Surgery and received the Vascular Surgery Excellence Award, 6 years in a row; Top 10% in the nation for Vascular Surgery, 6 years in a row; Spine Surgery Excellence Award, 3 years in a row; and is a Five-Star Recipient for Hip Fracture Treatment, 6 years in a row. Firelands is accredited in heart failure and is an American Heart Association Mission: Lifeline Gold Plus Receiving Hospital, as well as a Certified Chest Pain Center. Firelands Regional Medical Center is a Verified Level III Trauma Center, a Certified Primary Stroke Center, and is the area's only Breast Imaging Center of Excellence. Firelands provides many advanced care services to 13 counties in the region including comprehensive cancer care, full-time interventional cardiac care, open heart surgery, wound care services including hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOT), acute inpatient rehabilitation, as well as many advanced surgical procedures. Firelands Counseling and Recovery Services is one of the largest hospital based behavioral health and substance abuse programs in the state of Ohio. For more information about Firelands, visit our website at firelands.com.