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AAAHC Marks 45th Anniversary in New Office Location

Commemorates 21 years of *Bernard A. Kershner Innovations in Quality Improvement Award* ceremonies with celebration in December

(Deerfield, Ill.) Mar. 18, 2024 — The Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC) toasts its 45th anniversary this month – commemorating four and a half decades of growth and leadership in the ambulatory health care industry and celebrating the work of its 6,700 accredited organizations.

Not yet a year in its newly established Deerfield office, AAAHC is poised to continue its legacy of advancing ambulatory health care, growing alongside the industry it serves. This anniversary highlights the organization's achievements and signifies the dedication of AAAHC Surveyors and staff to continuous improvement and innovation in health care standards.

“I want to congratulate our entire team as we celebrate AAAHC's 45th anniversary together and look toward the future opportunities we have to further drive growth and innovation,” said Noel Adachi, MBA, president and CEO of AAAHC. “In the past year we completed our transition to a bright new corporate office, which serves as a unifying hub for our dedicated and growing team of professionals. This thoughtfully selected and intelligently designed location not only maximizes engagement opportunities but also embodies the spirit of our AAAHC *1095 Strong, quality every day.*”

Another Milestone in 2024

In addition to its 45th Anniversary, AAAHC will celebrate the annual *Bernard A. Kershner Innovations in Quality Improvement Award* program, which returns to its traditional December event during AAAHC's *Achieving Accreditation* conference in Las Vegas. For more than 20 years, AAAHC has recognized outstanding achievements in quality improvement within accredited ambulatory health care organizations, including primary care and surgical/procedural. AAAHC will congratulate all finalists and announce winners during this much-anticipated event.

“As we celebrate the 45th anniversary, we reflect on the visionary leadership of our founding board and their commitment to advancing quality in ambulatory health care,” said Jan Davidson, MSN, RN, CNOR, AAAHC Board Chair. “From the inception of AAAHC to the legacy of the Kershner QI Awards, we honor the dedication and innovation that have shaped our

organization. Looking ahead, we remain steadfast in our goals to continuously elevate Standards, empower health care organizations, and forge a brighter future for patient care and safety.”

As part of this milestone year and the recent introduction of v43 Standards, AAAHC will launch the *1095 Engage Accreditation Management System*, strengthening its commitment to quality improvement for ambulatory care for clients, Surveyors, and the industry at large.

“With more than 6,700 organizations currently accredited by AAAHC, the value of our nationally recognized Standards is undeniable,” said Adachi. “Each certificate of accreditation and every certification signifies a commitment to delivering safe, high-quality services to patients, aligning with our mission of ensuring excellence in the ambulatory care environment.”

AAAHC encourages its accredited organizations to submit a quality improvement study for the *Bernard A. Kershner Innovations in Quality Improvement Award*, visit <https://www.aaahc.org/quality-institute/> to learn about the submission process and see a timeline of past winners.

About AAAHC

Founded in 1979, AAAHC is the leader in ambulatory health care accreditation, with more than 6,700 organizations accredited. We accredit a wide range of outpatient settings, including ambulatory surgery centers, office-based surgery facilities, endoscopy centers, student health centers, medical and dental group practices, community health centers, worksite health clinics, retail clinics, and Indian/Tribal health centers, among others.

AAAHC advocates for the provision of high-quality health care through the development and adoption of nationally recognized standards. We provide a valuable survey experience founded on a peer-based, educational approach to onsite review. The AAAHC Certificate of Accreditation and specialized programs including Advanced Orthopaedic Certification and Patient-Centered Medical Home Certification demonstrate an organization’s commitment to providing safe, high-quality services to its patients—every day of the 1,095-day accreditation cycle. AAAHC Accreditation and Certification Programs are recognized by third-party payors, medical professional associations, liability insurance companies, state and federal agencies, and the public. For more information on AAAHC, please visit www.aaahc.org.