



St. Andrew's Health Center

SMP Health System

316 Ohmer St.
Bottineau, ND 58318
Phone: (701) 228-9300
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www.standrewshealth.com

August 18, 2010

St. Andrew's Health Center Designated as a Level V Trauma Center

St. Andrew's Health Center in Bottineau has received a Level V Trauma Center designation, following a recent survey from the State Trauma Committee. Level V trauma designation is granted to small rural facilities such as St. Andrew's that meet the required criteria.

With this designation, St. Andrew's joins a statewide system to respond to trauma. Maintaining the Level V designation involves ongoing training and the availability of specific equipment and emergency supplies. Working in collaboration with the local EMS and larger Level II facilities such as Trinity is also very important. This provides an organized system to get the trauma victim to the appropriate level of care quickly while still providing the stabilizing treatment and interventions that will make the transfer as safe as possible for the patient.

St. Andrew's exhibits many strengths that contributed to the Level V designation, including early activation of Trauma Codes, appropriate management of patients admitted to the facility, support from hospital administration and providers for the Trauma Program, a strong relationship with Emergency Medical Services, and a dedicated Director of Nursing/Trauma Coordinator that has been in the position for 10 plus years.

Many trauma deaths occur in rural areas, where optimal care can be comprised by a variety of factors such as long distances to medical facilities, weather conditions, poorly maintained roads and other geographic features. Organized trauma care systems are critical to reducing mortality and morbidity rates in rural areas such as Bottineau County.

Preventing trauma is always the preferred, but St. Andrew's is committed to having a system in place to respond effectively when traumas do occur. In fact, all Emergency Room respondents at St. Andrew's have Advanced Trauma Life Support certification. By maintaining a Level V Trauma designation, St. Andrew's Health Center becomes an important part of an organized system to quickly and efficiently assess, resuscitate and stabilize trauma victims.



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Chief of Staff Dr. Amit Kulkarni and Director of Nursing/Trauma Coordinator Gwen Wall stand next to the Level V Trauma Designation certificate.

For more information:

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