



Gibson Area Hospital
& Health Services
GIBSON GETS IT



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACTS:

Kathi Waldhof | Women's Choice Award®
Best Hospitals Program Administrator
T: (954) 922-0846 x 2
kwaldhof@womenschoiceaward.com

Joshua A. Johnson | Gibson Area Hospital & Health Services
Executive Director of Communications
T: 217-784-2612
josh_johnson@gibsonhospital.org

Gibson Area Hospital and Health Services Receives the 2026 Women's Choice Award® as One of America's Best Hospitals for Obstetrics

Gibson City, IL, 1/5/2026 – Gibson Area Hospital and Health Services (GAHHS) has been recognized as one of **America's Best Hospitals for Obstetrics** by the **Women's Choice Award®**, placing it among the top-performing hospitals nationwide. This designation signifies that GAHHS ranks in the **top 7%** of **4,655 U.S. hospitals** offering obstetric services.

The **Women's Choice Award** helps women make informed healthcare decisions by identifying hospitals that deliver the highest quality care and patient experience—especially critical during labor and delivery, where complications can arise unexpectedly.

“Welcoming a child is one of the most meaningful moments in a woman’s life,” said **Delia Passi**, founder and CEO of the Women’s Choice Award. “Choosing where to deliver is just as important as choosing the right doctor. Our award empowers women to make confident decisions by highlighting hospitals that consistently provide exceptional care and safety for both mother and baby.”

Why This Matters

According to the CDC, **1 in 6 women experience complications during labor and delivery**, making hospital quality and safety a vital consideration. The Women’s Choice Award is the **only national designation** that combines **clinical excellence** with **patient satisfaction** to identify top-performing obstetric hospitals.

Award Criteria

The methodology for the Best Hospitals for Obstetrics includes:

- Percentage of patients who “definitely recommend” the hospital (HCAHPS survey)
- Patient safety scores based on 12 CMS measures of infection and complication rates
- Low rates of early elective deliveries (0–1%)
- Baby-Friendly USA designation (WHO/UNICEF initiative)
- Level III or IV NICU capabilities for critically ill newborns

“Our award gives women peace of mind that their hospital choice reflects the highest standards in care and safety,” added Passi. “As more women delay childbirth into their 30s and 40s, choosing a top-performing hospital becomes even more essential.”

GAHHS is one of 591 hospitals nationwide to earn this prestigious recognition for 2026.

“We are honored to be recognized again this year by Women’s Choice as one of America’s Best Hospitals for Obstetrics. Providing quality patient experience is incredibly important to us and the GAH team has delivered the highest quality care for 73 years. We will continue to set the bar high to deliver the best care and the best patient experience in the area.” Robert Schmitt, CEO, Gibson Area Hospital and Health Services

For more information on the Best Hospitals for Obstetrics visit

<https://womenschoiceaward.com/best-hospitals-for-obstetrics>

###

ABOUT Gibson Area Hospital and Health Services

Gibson Area Hospital and Health Services has been an independent, community-based Critical Access Hospital located in East Central Illinois since 1952. Serving Ford County and 8 neighboring counties with over 35 provider office locations throughout the service area offering robust primary and specialty care options. Our Vision is to be the model of excellence in community-based healthcare. Our Mission is to provide personalized, professional healthcare services to the residents of the communities we serve. We strive to be the heart of your hometown health, providing state-of-the-art healthcare services and facilities close to home. For more information, visit: www.gibsonhospital.org

ABOUT THE WOMEN'S CHOICE AWARD®

The **Women's Choice Award for Best Hospitals™** is a trusted referral source and a prestigious credential that identifies the nation's top hospitals based on rigorous criteria, including clinical performance, patient satisfaction, and relevant accreditations. Hospitals earning this designation demonstrate a strong commitment to delivering exceptional care and prioritizing the health and well-being of their patients.

As the **only award that incorporates the preferences of women** in its methodology, the Women's Choice Award empowers women to make informed healthcare decisions with confidence. In fact, **84% of women say they would trust a hospital more if it carried the Women's Choice Award seal**, making it a powerful symbol of quality and trust.

To learn more, visit www.womenschoiceaward.com.