

News Release: American Heart Association Achievement Awards

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From: NEIGHBORHOOD HEALTH CLINIC

Neighborhood Health Clinic earns national distinction with triple-win American Heart Association® Achievement Awards!

Because of our demonstrated dedication to following stringent American Heart Association treatment guidelines, **Neighborhood Health Clinic** has received three Achievement Awards recognizing our focus on quality patient care using therapies targeting Blood Pressure, Type-2 Diabetes, and Cholesterol during a survey from June 1, 2019 through May 29, 2020.

In each of the three categories Neighborhood Health Clinic is recognized by the American Heart Association for our commitment to improving awareness, detection, and management by educating and empowering patients with evidenced-based information and tools. These three awards are a testament to the diligence and professionalism of our staff and volunteers.

“The work being done by both the American Heart Association and Neighborhood Health Clinic is indispensable. What AHA is doing nationally, with blood pressure especially, is such a necessity. Most people can’t feel the danger of high blood pressure until they have their first stroke. Monitoring is the best critical defense to reduce dangerously high blood pressure.”

- Sanjan Rao, M.D., FACC; Chairman, Southwest Florida Chapter AHA

Target: BP™ Gold Certificate of Recognition: - Recognizes practices that have controlled high blood pressure in 70% of our adult patients. In partnership with the American Medical Association, *Target: BP™* celebrates physician practices and health system treatments that achieve blood pressure control rates in patients suffering from hypertension within the populations they serve. Neighborhood Health Clinic’s award-winning participation in *Target: BP™* demonstrates our commitment to prioritize blood pressure control practices to reduce the number of our patients at risk for heart attacks and strokes.

Target: Type-2 Diabetes™ Gold Certificate of Recognition: Honors Neighborhood Health Clinic's work with the American Heart Association's protocols to "turn guidelines into lifelines" that help our patients achieve the best possible outcomes in managing their health. *Target: Type-2 Diabetes* addresses cardio vascular risk factors in patients with type 2 diabetes as part of the AHA and American Diabetes Association's *Know Diabetes by Heart™* initiative. At Neighborhood Health Clinic we're committed to turning treatment guidelines into lifelines for healthy living.

Check. Change. Control. Cholesterol™ Participation Award recognizes Neighborhood Health Clinic's allegiance to practices that improve risk assessment for ASCVD (Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease), and for submitting data on appropriate statin therapy measures that reduce the risk of heart disease and stroke through improved cholesterol management. High cholesterol is one of the major controllable risk factors for heart disease, heart attack and stroke, but typically has no symptoms. Nearly one in three American adults have high LDL or "bad" cholesterol and need personalized treatment, including lifestyle modifications or prescribed medication to manage their levels.

To improve awareness, detection and management of cholesterol across the nation, the American Heart Association launched its *Check. Change. Control. Cholesterol.* initiative in 2017, now nationally supported by Amgen. Since then, more than 1300 health centers and systems have registered to participate. At Neighborhood Health Clinic we're proud to be among the organizations who are recognized for performance in the *Check. Change. Control. Cholesterol* program.

Neighborhood Health Clinic's **mission** is to deliver quality medical and dental care to low-income, working but uninsured Collier County adults using a professional volunteer staff and funded by private philanthropy. Our staff and volunteers are honored to achieve recognition from the American Heart Association for our commitment to helping our patients understand and manage their health risks. Our greatest reward is caring for our patients with *Hope and Healing for Those in Need.*
