



Contact Information:

Sean Rice

507-535-5750

sean.rice@zvhc.org

www.zvhc.org

August 9, 2016 – For Immediate Release

Zumbro Valley Health Center to Commemorate 10 Years Serving Homeless Population

Rochester, Minn. – Zumbro Valley Health Center will host a gathering of key providers in the state’s ongoing efforts to reduce homelessness. This will include representatives from Zumbro Valley Health Center, Olmsted County and Hearth Connection as well as numerous people who have benefitted from these programs.

“Research shows that homelessness has decreased nine percent in Minnesota over the past three years,” said Hearth Connection Southern Regional Manager Warren Duncan. “This finding follows a jump of 32% between 2006 and 2012.”

Duncan added that organizations like Zumbro Valley Health Center have been crucial to this reduction.

“Over the past 10 years, our organization has helped hundreds of people secure housing and key support services,” said Shery Block, homeless services supervisor for Zumbro Valley Health Center. “Our outreach staff have found people living in places not meant for human habitation, helped them obtain housing and then worked with these individuals to obtain mental health services, medical treatment and addiction counseling to address their various needs.”

Block said the event is to celebrate progress made in the region to reduce the numbers of people experiencing homelessness. It will be held Thursday, August 11, from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm at the organization’s 29 7th Street NE location in downtown Rochester.

About Zumbro Valley Health Center

Restoring hope...one life at a time. For the past 50 years, Zumbro Valley Health Center has worked to improve the health of people in SE Minnesota regardless of their ability to pay. The organization enhances the quality of life for individuals through an integrated model of care providing behavioral health, medical, dental and community support services. Last year, staff served 4,500 people, the overwhelming majority of whom are from under-served populations. The services we provide all have the same goal – helping people with an addiction disorder, a mental illness or a co-occurring condition lead more healthy, productive and self-sufficient lives. Zumbro Valley Health Center is a private, non-profit organization serving Olmsted and Fillmore counties. For more information, visit our Web site at www.zvhc.org or call 507-289-2089.

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