

### **CHI St. Alexius Health Turtle Lake Turtle Lake, ND:**

Turtle Lake Community Memorial Hospital delivers primary health care to central and southern McLean, Sheridan, and Oliver counties. We operate a 25-bed Critical Access Hospital. We also operate a Rural Health Clinic in Washburn, North Dakota. Our facility employs approximately 47 FTE with another 3 third party vendor employees.

CHI St. Alexius Health Turtle Lake is located in central North Dakota, approximately 60 miles north of Bismarck and 60 miles south of Minot, North Dakota. The hospital serves the people in central and south McLean County along with the people of eastern Sheridan County. The Rural Health Clinic located in Washburn serves Southern McLean County as well as parts of western Oliver County. Along with the hospital, agricultural, energy production, and recreation provide the economic base of the town of Turtle Lake. It is surrounded by many area lakes and wide-open spaces to enjoy the wonders of nature. The population of Turtle Lake, ND is 575 (2017).

Our mission is: *"The mission of Catholic Health Initiatives is to nurture the healing ministry of the Church, supported by education and research. Fidelity to the Gospel urges us to emphasize human dignity and social justice as we create healthier communities."*

### **THE BENEFITS OF THE 340B PROGRAM:**

Turtle Lake Community Memorial Hospital makes medical care accessible to the entire community it serves. It operates a 24-hour, Level 5 state certified emergency room. In 2017/2018 we had 563 emergency room visits. We also had 76 acute days of care, 6,377 swing bed days, and 2,053 Washburn Clinic visits. Turtle Lake Community Memorial Hospital charity care policy provides discounted and free services to patients who lack the resources to be fully responsible for the healthcare they receive. The Charity Care policy is designed to ensure the population served by Turtle Lake Community Memorial Hospital has access to needed healthcare services. In fiscal year 2017/2018, Turtle Lake Community Memorial Hospital and its clinic had \$8,276 in charity care and \$342,131 in bad debt write offs. Our rural health clinic offers a sliding fee schedule to uninsured and underinsured patients. One hundred percent of qualified uninsured or underinsured sliding fee schedule patients are written off as charity care. In 2017/2018, Turtle Lake Community Memorial Hospital's payer mix was approximately 39% Medicare, 48% Medicaid, 7% self-pay and 6% commercial insurance. All payers are charged the same regardless of insurance.

Turtle Lake Community Hospital uses the 340B funds to subsidize essential health services that are high in expense and are essential to our community. We also use the 340B program to subsidize and offer expanded charity care for our indigent patients, as well as a plan expand access to primary clinic care in the community.

### **IMPACT IF THE PROGRAM WAS SCALED BACK**

The 340B program had a net revenue of \$105,751. This program helped Turtle Lake provide Charity Care to 45 patients on 51 hospital and clinic visits. The Hospital is also able to provide a free health fair, local school health education, which includes CPR training at no cost to local businesses including the public schools, and participates in community events. Turtle Lake Community Memorial Hospital would struggle to operate without the benefits of the 340B program.