



## Press Release

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **VNA Health Care's President & CEO, Linnea Windel is recognized as one of Crain's Chicago Business 2019 Notable Women in Health Care.**

Crain's Chicago Business 2019 Notable Women in Healthcare spotlights 50 accomplished professionals from different corners of the field. To qualify for the list, nominees must be based in the Chicago area and have shown the ability or power to effect change in the health care industry. They have demonstrated a willingness to share expertise and have assumed leadership positions outside of their organizations. This prestigious list includes women executives at top teaching hospitals as well as prominent researchers making strides in attacking cancer, heart disease, infertility, allergies and skin disease. Also represented are senior administrators of community hospitals, practice groups and clinics. A number of the women recognized are focused on efficiency to reduce costs and improve affordability. Many serve patients on Medicaid or without insurance and grapple with ways to improve access and quality for the disadvantaged.

As President/CEO of VNA Health Care (VNA), Linnea Windel is responsible for strategic direction, administration and operational oversight of the largest Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) in suburban Chicago providing medical care and other health services for people with Medicaid or no health insurance. Now in its 101<sup>st</sup> year of service to the community, Linnea Windel led VNA to be among the largest (top 5% in the U.S. based on the number of patients served) and most efficient FQHCs in the country according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) reports. Further, in August 2019 the organization was recognized by HRSA as a Health Center Quality Leader at the Gold Level for overall clinical performance, a designation reserved for the top 10% of FQHCs in the United States.

Ms. Windel joined VNA in 1988 and has served as President and CEO since 1999. She is a 2011 graduate of the prestigious Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Executive Nurse Fellows program. In recognition of her contributions to the field, Ms. Windel was inducted into the American Academy of Nursing in November 2018.

“We are delighted that Linnea Windel has been recognized by Crain’s as a Notable Woman in Health Care. Her outstanding dedication to improving access to healthcare for all has shaped VNA into a center for clinical excellence and positively contributes to addressing healthcare challenges across the region.” said Mike Shales, Chairman of the VNA Board of Directors. “This leadership recognition is so well-deserved and underscores VNA’s commitment to the delivery of accessible, efficient and compassionate health care services for people with limited resources.”

*VNA Health Care is the largest Federally Qualified Health Center in suburban Chicago and operates 16 clinics serving over 72,000 people a year. VNA is recognized by the Health Resources and Services Administration as a Health Center Quality Leader at the Gold level and ranks in the top 10% of health centers nationwide for overall patient outcomes. Outcome measures include prenatal care, adolescent weight screening and counseling, vascular disease treatment, blood pressure control, healthy birth weights, and asthma care. VNA’s combination of convenience (by appointment or walk-in), patient-centered technology and expert, cost-effective care delivered with respect and compassion have led to these results. VNA is accredited by The Joint Commission and certified as a Primary Care Medical Home for all sites. # # #*