



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

June 20, 2017

CONTACT: Darryll Fortune, [darryll.fortune@mcfi.net](mailto:darryll.fortune@mcfi.net)

414-540-2730 (office); 414-791-8464 (mobile)

## **WHOLE HEALTH CLINICAL GROUP NAMED A 2017 SALUTE WINNER**

*Public Policy Forum recognizes MCFI subsidiary for public-private cooperation with city of West Allis*

MILWAUKEE – [Whole Health Clinical Group](#) (WHCG), a subsidiary of [The Milwaukee Center for Independence](#), is a recipient of the 2017 Salute to Local Government awards from the Public Policy Forum. WHCG received the award for public-private cooperation as a result of its partnership with the city of West Allis and Cardinal Capital Management to build a new 25,000-square-foot health center.

Whole Health Clinical Group is the largest provider of mental health services in southeastern Wisconsin, serving more than 800 consumers and their families in Milwaukee, Waukesha and Washington counties.

The Salute awards recognize local governments and school districts for innovation, partnership and cooperation, as well as individuals in government and school districts for excellence and lifetime achievement. The 2017 winners were recognized at an awards breakfast on June 20 at the Pfister Hotel.

“We are proud of this honor that recognizes our efforts to open our new clinic in West Allis,” said John Chianelli, executive director, Whole Health Clinical Group. “The staff working in this new building will help Whole Health Clinical Group continue achieving its goal to improve the physical health status of adults with mental illness and those with co-occurring disorders.”

WHCG built a new, more modern and accessible clinic to serve both the behavioral and physical health needs of its clients. Together with developer Cardinal Capital Management, Whole Health identified the former Roosevelt Elementary School, a West Allis-West Milwaukee School District facility vacant since the 1990s, as an ideal location. The new health center officially opened this week at 932 S. 60th St.

Securing the necessary approvals was a significant challenge that required substantial partnership with West Allis. Working in close cooperation, Whole Health Clinical Group, Cardinal Capital and the city’s economic development staff successfully engaged the public, addressed neighborhood concerns and secured rezoning approvals from the city’s Plan Commission and Common Council. In addition, Forward Community Investments provided a portion of its New Market Tax Credit allocations for the new building. The Whole Health Clinical Group is the first community-based integrated health and social services program in Wisconsin. Tri-City Bank and the Milwaukee Health Care Partnership also played key roles in bringing this project to fruition.

The Whole Health Clinical Group provides recovery-oriented services and advocacy for people living with mental illness in southeastern Wisconsin. It is one of nine organizations across the country chosen to pilot a new integrated health care model designed to remove the barriers people face to taking care of both their body and mind – and make it available in one place.

*The Milwaukee Center for Independence is a non-profit agency founded in 1938 that helps people of all ages with disabilities reach their highest potential. Each year, more 8,000 people with physical, developmental, behavioral, economic, and other barriers to success, move toward realizing their dreams through our life-changing, hands-on and individualized care. The agency’s standards of quality and effectiveness are renowned, with programs earning consistent recognition by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF), and The Joint Commission, an independent agency that accredits and certifies health care organizations. For more information, please visit [www.mcfi.net](http://www.mcfi.net).*

###