



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Jefferson County Honored by UnitedHealthcare for Creating a Culture of Wellness

- *Jefferson County receives “Golden Apple” recognition for earning the distinction as a Well-Deserved organization twice*
- *UnitedHealthcare will present the award at the Board of County Commissioners Aug. 8 meeting*

DENVER (August 4, 2017) – UnitedHealthcare recognized Jefferson County for implementing a successful workplace wellness program to improve its employees’ health and well-being.

Jefferson County was one of 10 organizations across the United States awarded with a UnitedHealthcare “Well Deserved” award for its year-long wellness program that produced a culture of wellness in the workplace. Jefferson County also received this year’s “Golden Apple” award for earning this distinction from UnitedHealthcare twice.

The award will be presented at the Board of Jefferson County Commissioners Hearing in Golden at 8 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 8.

Jefferson County distinguished itself by creating an innovative wellness program that incorporated 40+ Wellness Champions from across the enterprise and within its many diverse departments. These Champions tailored messages that fit the unique culture of the offices in which they work. The program is supported by senior leadership who are also Wellness Champions, participating and encouraging employee participation in activities such as farmer’s markets, a Door-to-Door Organics Co-Op, meditation and stress-reduction classes, and healthy-cooking classes. Also, standing desks are widely used among employees, and this year Jefferson County is piloting a Treadmill Desk Pilot Program.

“Jefferson County has set a great example of how companies can support their employees’ desire to improve their health,” said Beth Soberg, CEO of UnitedHealthcare of Colorado and Wyoming. “Most employees with access to wellness programs say they make a positive impact on their health, and employers may benefit as well from increased employee satisfaction, lower absenteeism, increased productivity and lower medical costs.”

“Our employees love the wellness program,” said Jefferson County Commissioner and Board Chair Libby Szabo. “From online challenges to educational seminars and beyond, the feedback we receive is overwhelmingly positive.”

“In addition to this honor from UnitedHealthcare, this year Jefferson County was selected as a Health Links Certified Healthy Business Leader and a Top 5 finalist for the Colorado Governor’s Award for worksite wellness. We are thrilled to be able to support our employees in this way,” said Szabo.

This is UnitedHealthcare’s ninth year of recognizing employers who demonstrate a commitment to improving their employees’ health and well-being through innovative wellness programs. UnitedHealthcare worked with an external broker review panel to review and judge all Well Deserved award applicants.

A recent analysis by UnitedHealthcare demonstrated that employees of Well Deserved award winners showed positive health care decision-making in many key areas including wellness and preventive screening compliance, selecting appropriate places of care, and using care providers that rank highly in terms of quality care and cost-efficiency.

About UnitedHealthcare

[UnitedHealthcare](#) is dedicated to helping people nationwide live healthier lives by simplifying the health care experience, meeting consumer health and wellness needs, and sustaining trusted relationships with care providers. The company offers the full spectrum of health benefit programs for [individuals](#), [employers](#), military service members, retirees and their families, and [Medicare](#) and [Medicaid](#) beneficiaries, and contracts directly with more than 1 million physicians and care professionals, and 6,000 hospitals and other care facilities nationwide. UnitedHealthcare is one of the businesses of [UnitedHealth Group](#) (NYSE: UNH), a diversified Fortune 50 health and well-being company. For more information, visit UnitedHealthcare at uhc.com or follow [@myUHC](https://twitter.com/myUHC) on Twitter.

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