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***Contact: Anastasia Burton, Community Relations & Marketing Director, (406) 444-7561***

### **Shodair Children's Hospital Psychiatric Program Earns Re-Accreditation**

(HELENA) — Shodair Children's Hospital is proud to announce its psychiatric program once again earned praises and the gold seal of approval for quality health care—literally. Recently, the hospital passed an extensive inspection and was awarded accreditation by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations following a comprehensive three-day survey of the hospital's psychiatric facilities, care, and services.

Joint Commission accreditation confirms that the hospital has demonstrated a high level of quality in care and services offered to patients. Accreditation is awarded for a three-year period, and is indicated by a gold seal specifying national quality approval. The survey included critical, in-depth reviews of both records and policies related to care, as well as interviews of patients and staff members.

"We're happy to have once again demonstrated our commitment to quality care," said Shodair Administrator Jack Casey. "Achieving Joint Commission accreditation for our psychiatric programs is an important part of confirming the expectations of patients and their families for safety and quality care."

This spring, Shodair's genetics laboratory passed a comprehensive inspection and was awarded re-accreditation by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. Shodair's genetics lab has been continuously accredited by the Joint Commission since 1989. Additionally, Shodair's education department earned re-accreditation earlier this year by the Northwest Association of Accredited Schools (NAAS), marking its thirteenth year of continuous accreditation by the NAAS.

The Joint Commission evaluates nearly 17,000 health care organizations and programs in the United States. Founded in 1951, it is an independent, not-for-profit organization, and the nation's oldest and largest standards-setting and accrediting body in health care.

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***About Shodair Children's Hospital***—Shodair Children's Hospital provides acute and residential psychiatric care for Montana children and adolescents, and clinical and laboratory medical genetic services to residents of all ages. Shodair is a non-profit, non-denominational facility and the state's only Children's Miracle Network hospital. The medical genetics department at Shodair is the state's medical genetics program, and provides comprehensive services to patients at the Helena campus and in communities throughout the state, via outreach clinics.